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LITERATURE

British Statesmen of the Great War, 1793-1814. By J. W. Fortescue. (Oxford, Clarendon Press.)

THE FORD LECTURER at Oxford University for 1911 chose a congenial topic, and has treated it with his accustomed vigour. Mr. Fortescue's seven discourses have evidently been printed with little or no alteration; and, since their chief value consists in the directness of their appeal, the absence of revision is not to be regretted. His enthusiasms and denunciations belong, indeed, rather to the platform than the study, and are thrown into a finality of form which the evidence adduced by him does not always substantiate. Mr. Fortescue seldom pauses to weigh motives, and he dwells on aspects of international affairs which interest him, while passing lightly over finance, and even diplomacy. In volume shape, therefore, these lectures appear to lack balance; they are overlaid with naval and military matters, and there we get more examination into tactics than general considerations of strategy. The war policy of Pitt is unsparingly condemned, and Mr. Fortescue stands, of course, on safe ground when he censures the frittering away of effort on small and isolated expeditions. But we are bound to say that some of the alternatives he suggests seem rather fantastic, and that his wisdom after the event is here and there a little oppressive.

Mr. Fortescue remarks that we do not possess a single history of England, worth

the name, during the years 1789-1815. If he means works on the scale of Lecky's and Spencer Walpole's, he is undeniably correct; many investigators, notably Dr. Holland Rose, are at work on the period, but an author has not yet arrived to collect their labours into a whole. The delay is, possibly, not altogether without its advantages, since, as Mr. Fortescue goes on to observe, several regrettable gaps in biography have still to be made good. Dr. Holland Rose has come to the rescue of Pitt's memory since the first Ford Lecture was delivered, but has not yet dealt with him at grips with the French Revolution. Capt. Josceline Bagot has only supplied a foretaste of the authoritative 'Life' of Canning, which those interested in the period of the Great War are anxiously expecting, without much hope, apparently, that their desires will be gratified. Dundas's career might be worth investigating, if his correspondence was accessible, particularly by a writer who was not squeamish about disclosing political jobs. But we do not see much necessity for a biography of Grenville, about whom all that need be known is to be discovered in the Dropmore Papers and the Duke of Buckingham's 'Court and Cabinets of George III.'; or of Windham, whose interest lies in character rather than achievement, and who is sufficiently revealed in his diary.

Although, as we have already suggested, Mr. Fortescue criticizes Pitt as a War Minister a trifle too severely, and hardly takes his moral influence into sufficient account, his portrait of the statesman, though unflattering, is faithful. Pitt's warmest admirers must allow that he did not understand men, and echo Wilber-force's lament that "his connexion with Dundas was his greatest misfortune." Mr. Fortescue agrees with Dr. Rose that he took after his mother much more than his father, and remarks, in a happy phrase, that he "gould never fall to zero, though he was quite capable of rising to boiling-point." In him, in fact, existed the unusual combination of a sanguine with a constant nature :-

"When the news of the victory of the Nile arrived, he wrote a letter to Windham beginning: 'Vive la marine anglaise! Vive le Pasha Djezzar! After reading the bulletin of to-day I hope you will give me some credit for my philosophy.' A school-boy could not have written with greater exultation; and it is pleasant to think that, while his colleagues were croaking, Pitt still retrieved his boyish lightness of heart retained his boyish lightness of heart. These, combined with pre-eminent ability, were the qualities that kept his Cabinet, for all its just discontent, in subservience to

Mr. Fortescue does substantial justice to several of Pitt's colleagues, notably those of his last Ministry. Perceval's political courage has never received due recognition, and it is hard on Lord Liverpool that he should have been snuffed out by Yonge's bad biography and Disraeli's gibe at the "archmediocrity." Though devoid of showy qualities, Liverpool had the rare art of | not see that one was provided.

keeping together Cabinets which contained a good many discordant elements, and there is the first volume of the Peel Papers to show that he retained a tight hand over the details of administration. But Mr. Fortescue by no means holds the balance even between Canning and Castlereagh. He habitually belittles the first and eulogizes the second. We do not object particularly to his description of Canning as "not quite a gentleman." The fact might have been otherwise phrased; but with Mr. Fortescue's evident meaning—that he was far from being a sincere colleague, and that he turned restive under opposition, however reasonable-few who have studied Canning's career will be disposed to quarrel. In the exposition of the causes of difference between him and Castlereagh, however, an unintentional twist is sometimes given to the evidence.

We are told of the Walcheren expedition, for instance, that Canning had been opposed to it, and that it had been a costly and lamentable failure. Canning would have preferred a landing in the Weser....But it is more than doubtful whether an expedition to North Germany would have resulted in any real It is hardly reasonable to success. extenuate an admitted blunder by adducing a pure supposition. It would be safer to say that both men had great qualities: Castlereagh's was the more constant mind, but Canning had that touch of the imagination in which his rival was lacking. Nor can we agree with Mr. Fortescue that Canning wished to oust Castlereagh,

'first, because he was impatient with a Minister who took the blame for his faults as well as the credit for his successes; and secondly, because he wished to steal from his colleague the protection of those very successful brothers, the Wellesleys."

Why should not Canning have honestly felt that Castlereagh's conduct of the War Office was not only inefficient in itself, but that it had also virtually to go undefended, on account of the poor figure which the Secretary always cut in debate? Few Administrations can carry the weight of an inarticulate member of the Cabinet, and the Portland Government was far from strong. Again, the Wellesley brothers were not "very successful" at that moment; the Whig outery against them rang loudly, and Mr. Fortescue gives the operations in Portugal much nearer their popular value when, on the previous page, he remarks that the second expedition had at least not been disgraced by Talavera."

In spite of a certain over-emphasis of criticism, 'British Statesmen of the Great War' can be read with pleasure, and its chief value is that it is calculated to send students to the original sources, there to work out for themselves the problems raised by the Ford Lecturer.

The book is good enough to deserve an index, and we are surprised that a writer of Mr. Fortescue's experience did

Japanese Poetry. By Basil Hall Chamberlain. (John Murray.)

Prof. Chamberlain's singularly able volume seeks to give "a bird's-eye view of standard Japanese poetry as a whole," and this aim is fully realized. Well-ordered and succinct, keen in critical insight and abounding in illuminating detail, it makes clear for English readers the radical divergences separating the poetical ideals of Japan from those of the West.

Japanese poetry was in the beginning, as far as recorded history shows, little more than a form of recreation indulged in by a limited class, the Court, to which narrow circle it was exclusively confined. Its sole productions were to be found in the numerous anthologies issued from time to time by Imperial command, and the writers of these, as Prof. Chamberlain points out, displayed a spirit of docility altogether appropriate in the circumstances, shunning any suspicion of vul-garity, looking always upward, never downward in the social scale, and lamenting such disasters as drought and famine, not for the sufferings of a starving population, but for the loss thereby entailed to the Imperial exchequer. The complete absence at this early period of any-thing in the nature of a popular element, corresponding, for example, with the English mediæval ballad circulating from mouth to mouth among the humbler classes, produces a sense of artificiality which even the more advanced productions of recent years do not entirely

It is not surprising that poetry evolved under such conditions should busy itself almost exclusively with little thingslittle, that is, either in themselves or by reason of the treatment accorded to them -such as congratulations, acrostics, the seasons, parting, and the like. Love itself, which can inspire epics, makes no attempt to do so through the medium of Japanese, epic grandeur of conception and execution being foreign to the trend of poetical thought. As in spirit, so in form, the miniature has always been the national desideratum. With the exception of the lyrical dramas, examples of which are given in Part III. of the present volume, there is no such thing as a long poem in the language, and the history of the various verse-forms successively in vogue is a history of condensation.

This history may, roughly, be divided into three main periods, illustrated by Parts I., II., and IV. of Prof. Chamberlain's work. Part I. consists of excerpts from the 'Man-yoshū' or 'Collection of a Myriad Leaves.' This, which dates from the eighth century, was, we are told, "the first Japanese anthology proper"; its poems approximate in length to the various forms of the average English short lyric, and represent the Golden Age of Japanese poesy, yielding place in Part II. (selected from the 'Collection of Odes,

Ancient and Modern' belonging to the tenth century) to the "Short Ode" of 31 syllables, which, though temporarily displaced by the wider activities of the Golden Age, survived by reason of the national passion for brevity, and became the classical verse-form. In Part IV. the "Hokku" or 17-syllable poem— surely the apotheosis of brevity—is the subject of a learned and exhaustive treatise, to which is appended a small anthology of examples. We have spoken in former years of the "Hokku." Indigenous to Japan, and not easily transplantable into any European tongue, it furnishes perhaps the most striking illustration of the essential cleavage between Japanese and Western ideas and methods. Prof. Chamberlain describes it as "reminding us less of an actual picture than of the title or legend attached to a picture"; and the description seems both apt and accurate. It is, as our author explains, the first half of the 31-syllable poem or "Short Ode" already mentioned, the other half—to such a pitch had the craze for brevity risen-being left to the reader's imagination. But while some examples of the "Hokku may fairly rank as little epigrammatic poems, clear-cut and gemlike-such as

But for its voice, the heron were A line of snow, and nothing more;

or,

Did it but sing, the butterfly Might have to suffer in a cage;

or, again,

Ah! yes, my passage through the world Is a mere shelter from a shower—

others can make no such claim.

A wild goose alone in a shower at Hirosawa, and

November, with a butcher-bird Perched on a post on the open moor,

answer precisely to Prof. Chamberlain's above-cited comparison, and give rise to a quaintly anomalous state of things from a Western point of view. It is as though one, lighting on a title for a picture, or a novel, or a poem, should deem him-self accredited there and then with the picture perfectly painted, the novel complete and equipped with every excellence of plot, characterization, and style, or the poem with innumerable subtleties thought and beauties of imagery; and all this has to lurk in the exiguous suggestions of seventeen syllables. It becomes in effect, in most cases, a shifting of the burden of composition from the poet's shoulders to those of his readers, and inevitably suggests the Horatian "Brevis esse laboro, obscurus fio." To the irreverent it may recall the frantic efforts of the average Briton to say all that is needed in a sixpenny telegram—usually with confusing results to the recipient.

It is in Part IV. that the principal value of the book lies. Though nominally devoted solely to the "Hokku" or poetical "Epigram," and to Bashō, the supreme master of the epigrammatic art, his predecessors and disciples, it actually

supplies a concise and lucid exposition of the whole history of Japanese poetry, laying due stress on the half-comprehended influence exercised by the literature of China. The fact that Chinese poetry had made itself known in Japan, principally in the form of "elegant extracts," may, thinks Prof. Chamberlain, have been the ultimate cause of the rigid code of "legislation" brought to bear, between 1087 and 1501, upon the then fashionable system of "linked verses." These, based on Chinese models, were finally limited in length to 100 hemistichs, and subjects, endings, and occasionally even phrases were arbitrarily commanded for each hemistich, with the result that the completed poem gave no continuous sense at all.

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Of the translations which fill the greater part of the volume, those contained in Parts I., II., and III. first appeared some thirty years ago, when Prof. Chamberlain was apparently content with an approximate rendering. Since then he has "gone over to the camp of the literalists," and the renderings appended to Part IV. are, without exception, literal. The change is to be commended, for it is only by such translation that we can hope to come at the spirit of a language so widely different from our own. Anything in the nature of an approximate version runs the risk of importing some leaven of Occidentalism, and thereby falsifying the impression which ought to be conveyed.

Space forbids us to pursue further the numerous paths of comparison and speculation opened up by Prof. Chamberlain's fascinating book, except in respect of a passage on p. 204, which is helpful in deciding what common ground, if any, exists for English poetical ideals and those of Japan. The trend of modern Japanese criticism is, we are told, to concede supremacy to no literature other than its own, and in consequence Japanese critics are busy turning all their geese into swans. Such easy assumption, not unknown in Europe, doubtless explains the discovery by one of them of "that absolute transparency and truth to nature which are of the essence of the epigram," in the words

Oh! how cool, dangling one's legs over the verandah!

But the fact that the serious enunciation of such a criticism should be seriously accepted goes far towards satisfying the present writer, at least, that common ground between English verse and Japanese, if it exist, is of the narrowest.

The negative sense of humour which makes, or should make, certain expressions impossible in English can hardly be realized by a foreigner, and even brings some of our own poets to grief. It is one of the most delicate tests of style and language. On the other hand, we get what seems to us an adorable quaintness at its best when such writers as Mr. Yoshio Markino strive to give expression to their new-found delight in England and English.

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The Wilderness Trail; or, The Ventures and Adventures of the Pennsylvania Traders on the Allegheny Path: with some New Annals of the Old West, and the Records of some Strong Men and some Bad Ones. By Charles A. Hanna. 2 vols. (Putnam's Sons.)

PERHAPS the most significant phrase in Mr. Hanna's monumental work is that in which he refers to a certain Mr. Landis as "the best authority on Lancaster County Indian history." This Lancaster is a county of Pennsylvania, a frontier county in its day (say about 1740), and first settled by the Scotch-Irish, of whom Mr. Hanna, in another book, has written the history. Nothing is more striking in the present work than the way in which the author's cast of mind and occasional force of expression recall every good description we have read of the characteristics of the colonial Scotch-Irish.

But the reference to Mr. Landis is significant as indicating how far the study of local history and archæology has already been carried in the United States. We doubt whether many, or any, older countries have a more creditable showing in this respect. It would almost seem as if the States were covered by a network of students and investigators, whose local patriotism has a thousand distinctive areas in which to expatiate, without losing touch with the larger patriotism of the Union or reference to its story. Thus we see that the Indian affairs of any former colony are in effect the Fach of a college of volunteer experts, who have prosecuted their studies to such purpose that to be "the best authority" on the Indian lore of a county is honour enough for one man. Of this high specialism Mr. Hanna's work is at once a product and an example. The fact implies historical value in the contents, but is a little adverse to the chances of such entertainment as seems promised by the ample and exhilarating sub-title. There is, in truth, a great deal more of path in these pages than of adventure, though the path was not to be trodden without adventures accruing in some degree. The book is more than anything else a contribution to historical topography.

Some few of the many problems which Mr. Hanna solves for the first time may be of interest to general readers, who, nevertheless, have read their Parkman with intelligent attention and not without a map. Conclusive, but exasperating in its windings, is the process by which he identifies the White River of the French with the Cuyahoga, while showing that the name also designated a region far beyond the river. Another curious identification belongs here. This same Cuyahoga, near its entrance to Lake Erie, was locally called Saguin's River, after a French trader settled there. Through a misconception on the part of a British map-maker (who imagined three rivers

where there were but two), the name Saguin was attributed to a stream many miles to the eastward of Saguin's River, and was thereafter corrupted into Chagrin by the incoming pioneers from Connecticut: an indignity which goes still unredressed.

Yet there is something typical in this instance of confusion. For in the long trail through Mr. Hanna's pages, laden with strange names and frequent etymological wonders and guesses as they are, one gets to have a weary sense that every Indian name, whether of an individual or a nation, changes into something else under one's eves as soon as one has read or spelt it. In regard to a considerable number, happily, you may believe that you know them if you do not try to fix them, even as an Act of Parliament (it is said) is usually quite intelligible if you do not look at it too closely. But seeing how quickly an alternative name, or a selection, follows every nomination in the text-or how the same name is shown (within parentheses) careering through every possible and improbable way of spelling or pronouncing itself-we begin to have convictions of a harmony and mutual understanding among things not usually related. For this changing, evanishing character of Indian nomenclature seems in curious sympathy with the restless mode of life of that people, their incalculable mergings and divergings, and still more their fitful coming and going upon the scene.

If the same tribe, chief, or river has many names, many places on the Wilderness Trail have the same name, and the resulting confusion has been the origin of much besides latter-day learning. Mr. Hanna's investigation of one such case leads him to pronounce an unconventional estimate of William Penn. Penn had agreed with Lord Baltimore, the Proprietor of Maryland, to recognize a certain Susquehannock Fort as the southern limit of Pennsylvania. The precise situation of the fort intended became later a subject of dispute. Mr. Hanna has now, for the first time, really "located" the fort to which the agreement referred, according to the sense of the term at the time. He holds that Penn's reference to a Susquehannock Fort further south was an afterthought (presumably the result of increase of knowledge), and concludes :-

"The whole history of the controversy leads inevitably also to the conclusion that William Penn was a shrewd, unscrupulous, evasive and somewhat tricky trader in his land operations, and that he and his sons outwitted and gained an advantage over the more honest, but less resourceful members of the Calvert family."

"The whole history" and "inevitably" are excessive terms. As a fact, the territorial difference made by a misplacing of the fort was not very great, whereas the counter-claims of the early Calverts would have cut away half of Penn's province, and even swallowed his city of Philadelphia. Also, in their conduct of the ninety years' boundary dispute (which turned more upon the meaning of

a reference to the fortieth degree of latitude, and even upon the definition of a circle, than on the position of a fort) the Calverts exercised a resourcefulness that was a heavy drain upon their honesty. A brief might be held for Mr. Hanna's view of the Penns in some other connexions, but throughout the boundary dispute they showed to advantage, morally and intellectually, against their opponents.

Most of Mr. Hanna's chapters have topographical titles, and the human figures, whether of red men or white, soldiers or traders, come in merely as they have momentary relation to the scene. This implies much repetition, yet few of these figures become more than names. None of the others stands out so clearly, or has so episodical a story, as the Dutchman Jacob Jongh, who worthily begins the long line of Pennsylvania traders by carrying off the minister's wife. record is a Gilbertian and joyous thing to read. Still, the king of the traders was undoubtedly George Croghan, who has two chapters to himself and pervades the rest of the book. He came from Ire land in 1741, was licensed as an Indian trader in 1744, and quickly became a power in the land. Open-handedness and honesty partly accounted for it; but he had a way with him, and managed the clan as well as the "nations." "He is a meer Idol," reports the official inter-preter Gist, "among his country-men, the Irish Traders." Which sounds curiously modern. His entry reads like an epitome of his career, or a sample passage from any page of the book :-

"Croghan first appears in the official correspondence of Pennsylvania as writing to Secretary Peters, May 26, 1747, that he had just returned from the woods, bringing a letter, a French scalp, and some wampum for the Governor from a party of the Six Nations Indians having their dwelling on the borders of Lake Erie (at Cuyahoga) who had formerly been in the French interest: and who now, thanks to Croghan's diplomacy, had, with 'all-most all the Ingans in the Woods,' declared against the French."

Beside this pleasing gift of a French scalp we may place the hearty terms in which some Six Nations chiefs, in a conference at Albany in that year, informed Governor Clinton how their friends the Younondadys ("Wyandots, or Hurons," explains Mr. Hanna in a foot-note) had disposed of a party of nine Frenchmen who fell into their hands:—

"Then they immediately killed eight, and took the commander prisoner, whom they have resolved to return in the place of a great Trader from Philadelphia, who was killed two years ago by the French or his (sic) directions; and the scalps they resolved to send where his Excellency, our Governor [Clinton to wit], had hung over the war kettle, in order to see if they would not give the broth a good relish, to the pleasing of his Excellency's palate. The Ottawanways and other nations [present at the massacre] thanked them, and said they also intended in a short time to make tryal, if they could not boil the same broth."

A writer concerned with the doings and interests of men of the woods and the frontier is likely to lose sympathy with the views and motives of men of the city, especially when these motives can be stigmatized as scruples. To this we may trace the habit, now a literary convention, of heaping denunciation and scorn on the Pennsylvania Assembly for its alleged refusal to arm the province in the year of Braddock's defeat. What was in 1755 a violent party view, with little force outside the coteries of a locality, received after the lapse of more than a century a new lease of life in the picturesque pages of Parkman, who is obsequiously followed (when not merely paraphrased and exaggerated) by all British writers on the subject, and most American ones. But Parkman was by temperament, character, and choice of subject antipathetic towards the Quaker, pacific, or even political type of man; and so in regard to what was indeed a difficult question, with rights and wrongs on both sides, he did not even take the trouble to inform himself fully of the facts. That his "school," should do so was not to be expected; but Mr. Hanna has knowledge enough to be his own master. Yet among expressions of the Parkman view-expressions which heighten in tone at every repetition— none has pleased us so much as the frequent additions here made. For instance, the "Paxtang Boys," who in 1763 butchered some harmless Indian neighbours (mostly old people and children), are to blame for that excess, but also because they did not rather

"march to Philadelphia and overthrow and forever destroy the Quaker government—a government which as early as 1751 had forfeited its right to existence by coolly inviting the sacrifice of the lives and fortunes of hundreds of its subjects, in order that the safely protected and over-righteous members of its own little clique might escape taxation for military purposes, and better the supposed chances for the salvation of their own tiny, pinched, and self-magnified souls."

Now this is the very voice of Lancaster County, not to say of Paxtang Township, and cannot but endear Mr. Hanna to the heart of any one who has gone at all deeply into the social history of Pennsylvania. The voice of truth on that matter, we think, would sound less ringingly, and may yet be heard. Meantime, a mere difference of opinion should not diminish our respect for a work of enormous labour, the first upon its theme, yet executed with a thoroughness that must render it as permanent as it is valuable.

The paper and typography are of unusual excellence and dignity; there are many photographic illustrations, and good maps new and old, besides the noblest Index we have seen of late years.

The Origin and Development of the Christian Church in Gaul during the First Six Centuries of the Christian Era. By T. Scott Holmes. (Macmillan & Co.)

It may appear strange to our readers if we begin by discussing the style of the learned book before us; for the importance and the complications of the subject may seem sufficient to atone for a dull and unattractive presentment of the facts. But nowadays, when there are so many works on history pouring from the press, it is more and more necessary to insist that in a historian style is allimportant; that history is not so much a science as an art; and that no amount of learning will secure for a work its proper circulation if it is not interesting to read. In the present instance Canon Scott Holmes uses voice as a verb; speaks of historicity; and of things being located (situated) in a place, while other expressions will produce a certain feeling of discontent infastidious readers. But more than that, he is dull, and dull on a subject which other writers have succeeded in making bright and interesting. It is remarkable that he makes only a single reference to Sir Samuel Dill's charming study on part of his subject; he never mentions either Montalembert, or Ernest Renan, who would have taught him what good style meant by the famous book on the Apostles and their immediate successors. These are the works he has neglected for the reading of dull theological discussions, and the result is that, however deeply the reader respects his learning, it is a labour to get through his book.

Doubtless the decaying Roman Empire was full of duliness and weariness; the golden age of everything worth having was gone by. The gloomy asceticism of the Catholic Church was spreading through Europe, and absorbing all the highest and best natures into its barrenness. The monasticism of the early Middle Ages absorbed in Gaul and her neighbours those who should have been the soundest and ablest progenitors of succeeding genera-When Canon Holmes describes in great detail the quarrels and disputes of early Councils, the futile attempts to reconcile necessity and free will, the rage against Arianism, Pelagianism, and semi-Pelagianism, we feel disposed to close the book, and reflect on the melancholy aberrations of the human intellect in endeavouring to impose purely subjective dogmas upon people who could not understand them, and to threaten with eternal damnation not merely immoral life, but even intelligent hesitation to adopt a cruel creed. The very points at issue are often unintelligible to modern thinkers. We have here 60 pages on what is entitled "the tragedy of Priscillian," and after carefully wading through it all, we are at a loss to know why this man was judicially murdered, and what were the distinctive points of his doctrine. It is almost comic to add that after

centuries of fine-drawn controversy, inconclusive for want of material, there turned up at Würzburg in 1889 a MS. with eleven tractates by this very Priscillian. Now at last, men thought, we shall know the truth about this obscure controversy. But no! Canon Holmes enumerates a series of learned theologians, some of whom brand Priscillian as a Manichæan, while others regard him as perfectly orthodox, so that the dispute is never likely to be settled. Canon Holmes seems to think that, though incautious in expression, he was not heretical in doctrine. This may be true, but a man who could not tell us in eleven tractates what he was accused of, and how it differed from his own assertions of orthodoxy, can only be regarded as a vague and useless teacher, and one likely to do little good. He must have been an attractive person, like F. D. Maurice, who combined great personal charm with great vagueness of teaching.

The whole controversy, moreover, affected the Spanish rather than the Gallic Church, so that it is somewhat irrelevant in this book. But we are ready to condone, nay, even to hail, irrelevancies, to interrupt the long series of local Councils of the Church which settled nothing, and lists of saints who are only to be distinguished by the names of the places where they lived. The panegyrics on early saints, especially monastic saints, make them all of the same pattern. There is really little to distinguish, as human characters, St. Hilary of Tours from St Hilary of Poitiers, or St. Martin of Tours, or a dozen other such famous fathers of the Church. The elegant, but vapid and shallow Sidonius affords only a poor change, nor do we think Canon Holmes's chapter at all so attractive as Sir Samuel Dill's on this quasi-pagan Christian. The great vogue of Sidonius's letters shows how poor was the literature of his age. He himself tells us he dare not aspire higher than to rival Pliny as a correspondent. But if Pliny was Cicero and water, Sidonius was Pliny and water. Perhaps the most distinct personage among the monks was Columbanus, whose Irish flavour gives him qualities of his own. We see that Canon Holmes follows the usual statements that at the remote College of Bangor (in Ireland) he was able to acquire high culture not only in literature, but also in Greek and Hebrew. It would have been well for so thorough a searcher to give his evidence for this advanced condition of the Irish house. It is, indeed, usual to find confident assertions about the wonderful learning of the early schools, at Armagh, Bangor, and elsewhere, and picture Ireland as in those dark days the brightest home of culture in Europe. But we have as yet failed to find trustworthy evidence of Greek or Hebrew studies in that country.

Of course, the main topics which the author set before him were, first, the real history of the Christianization of Gaul, and next the steps by which the Bishop of Rome acquired authority over of taking work the have precently the it, it, in our content of the have been supported by the have be

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this Church, though solid claims of independence were made in it. Both these topics he has treated with great care and completeness. The conversion of the country was no systematic undertaking from Rome, but the sporadic work of early saints. It was not unlike the case of Ireland, where there seem to have been teachers in the South who preceded St. Patrick, though to that missionary was due the systematizing of the Church, and even the Romanizing of it, as Prof. Bury has shown. There was no single figure in Gaul so outstanding as St. Patrick, though both St. Hilary of Poitiers and St. Martin of Tours stand in far stronger historical light, and should be far more definite figures. But possibly the clouds of legend about St. Patrick have made his figure loom larger in the

Here and there throughout this book there are references to controversies as still existing which we had thought long since laid to rest. There is a German book named, which appeared at Munich last year, the title of which is 'Hat Jesus das Papstthum gestiftet?' ('Did Jesus found the Popedom?') and the author thinks it worth his trouble to prove that no such act ever happened, and even quotes another savant as agreeing with him. If modern theological writers have nothing better to do than to explode over again such absurdities, and they can find publishers to produce their works, then enlightened histories like that before us may be useful in putting bounds on superstition even in the twentieth century.

MEMOIRS.

In Castle and Court House: being Reminiscences of Thirty Years in Ireland. By Ramsay Colles. (Werner Laurie.)—There is nothing more popular at present than volumes of this kind. All persons of any eminence, if they are old, are being implored by certain publishers, and indiscreet friends, to publish their recollections. Many persons of no eminence hope to make profit, or perhaps even attain celebrity, by recounting the details of their commonplace lives; yet there is no book less likely to attain any considerable success. The better class of reader wants the picture either of an interesting character—from Cellini to the Duke of Argyll we can find examples—or of an interesting time, when many public men came within the personal knowledge of the recollector. But the memoirs of ordinary men and women, if they contain nothing malevolent, are apt to be dull, and the repeating of jokes and funny stories, even if that repeating be accurate, spoils their savour. Moreover, in old age most men have forgotten the details of their early lives.

Such are the essential difficulties of Mr. Colles's undertaking, and though he is not very old, he has at least been long enough absent from Dublin to dim his vision, and spoil the accuracy of his report. Of this defect there are specimens all through the book. He does not give the right Christian names of Salmon or Ingram—the latter is evidently confused with a less-known brother; and when he comes to identify Lord Morris

with Peter the Packer, the amazed reader who knows Dublin is likely to cast aside the book. Yet there are many passages of interest about the lesser planets of that society. Mr. Edwin Hamilton and Mr. Lowry receive their due appreciation. But the greater lights seem almost unknown to him. Haughton, Nedley, Jerry Perry, Judge Adams, are not mentioned. His knowledge of Father Healy is slight and second-hand; we may say the same regarding Oscar Wilde, and several living men, whom we need not name. The redeeming feature of the book is its thorough courtesy. Mr. Colles must know dozens of stories which might hurt some living man or the friends of the dead; but in his whole volume we have found nothing that is not kindly, and often he is too generous. We should be sorry to say that all his geese are swans, for his intimates are by no means geese; but perhaps we might say that his ducks are sometimes geese, or better, that his trout are salmon.

His opening about Parnell and the scandal which ruined him is not, we think, a fair statement of the case, but we prefer not to deal with so unpleasant a business. When he talks of the aloofness of Trinity College from the life of the nation, he utters a sad and serious truth; but when he speaks of that College as the "Silent Sister," he repeats a stale jest, belied by the fact that the great College talks and writes far more than any other in the Empire. We will not discuss what he says about Profs. Dowden and Mahaffy, more than to say that he generally quotes them inaccurately, e.g., in answer to a haughty English lady e.g., in answer to a haughty English lady who asked what was the peculiar virtue of an Irish bull, "It is most peculiar, my lady: every Irish bull is pregnant"—this was perhaps worth saying. But to record that "every Irish bull is pregnant with wit" is both false and banal at the same time. Is both false and banal at the same time. The banalization of such replies is the leading fault of Mr. Colles's book. As we have already said, he dispenses no blame, but indiscriminate praise. He repeats the vulgar superstition that Dublin is a musical city. It is nothing of the kind, except in the cathedrals. Dublin has no great traditions of music, nor does it even support a decent orchestra adequately. The late Sir John Gilbert is praised as a great historian, and it is true that, when his 'History of Dublin' came out, it was lauded by the Dublin public to the skies. But when we now take it up, we must account it a poor and imperfect piece of work. The north side of the city is hardly touched, and on the south side Trinity College is (perhaps deliberately) ignored! Can any one consider such a book a satisfactory piece of work? But Gilbert was a goose among ducks, and hence his apparent greatness, and indeed in the col-lection and publication of records he did perform valuable work; but not in writing history.

We have no desire to criticize Mr. Colles harshly. The task he undertook is really very difficult, and errors of detail are almost impossible to avoid. But we think he greatly underrated those difficulties, and so has made himself the target of many a critic who would be wholly incapable of producing such a book as that before us.

The reader would be ill-advised to take these experiences as more than a partial picture of Dublin society. In every such city there are, of course, several circles, and probably no man has access to, or chooses to frequent, them all. They are more separated, too, in Dublin than elsewhere, owing to the old social severance of creeds. Hence there were Protestant circles in the

Church, the Senate, and the Bar where only an exceptional Catholic, such as Lord Morris or Father Healy, was ever at home. There were and are Roman Catholic circles, more Bohemian than the others, to which Protestant gentry were and are still strangers. It is these circles with which Mr. Colles is most intimate, though many of the wits he cites are Protestants. This, then, is a welcome sign that the severance of creed is at last breaking down, in spite of the new Roman policy. But, alas! with the growing seriousness and hurry of life, that delightful type of Irishman whom we had at his best in Wm. Lefanu is becoming as rare in Ireland as the bittern or the bustard.

An Irish Beauty of the Regency. Compiled from 'Mes Souvenirs, the Unpublished Journals of the Hon. Mrs. Calvert, 1789-1882. By Mrs. Warrenne Blake. (John Lane.)—There is a large reading public to whom gossip, as such, is welcome, especially when it is gossip about people with great names. The author of 'Mes Souvenirs' tells us that she met the Duke of Wellington and found him affable, or the Regent and the other royal dukes of the day, and found them one day gracious, and another cold and distant. But what does all this add to our knowledge of the time? and of what profit is it to any one? Almost the whole of this diary is devoted to the daily distractions of fashionable life-in this very like Mrs. Delany's memoirs, except that Mrs. Delany supplies far more detail: she tells us of the menus of her own and other people's dinners; she loves her garden; she helps her husband's poor relations, and does artistic work, which has lasted to the present day. Moreover, she lived in a far more intellectual society than Mrs. Calvert, and, though purely English, she is full of sympathy for Ireland; whereas Mrs. Calvert, Irish by blood, and rich by Irish money, abandoned her native land from the day of her marriage, and hated to revisit it.

Any Irish reader, attracted by the title of the book, cannot but be painfully impressed with this unpleasant fact. Never was an Irishwoman so un-Irish. When her favourite daughter marries a great Irish squire, she complains of the match because her child has to settle "in another country." She might as well have said in a strange country, i.e., in her own native land. When she is dragged there to superintend a family event, she cannot but allow that her son-in-law's house (Tynan Abbey in co. Armagh) is very nice and pretty, and the company very pleasant; but she adds that she "would not be condemned to live in Ireland for anything," and is in a fever to escape from it on the earliest possible day. Yet her sister had married a son of Lord Northland, who had built a stately house in Dublin, where back could have met brilliant society. But Dublin, where she was born, she absolutely ignores. The greater part of her fashionable friends were, indeed, the Irish nobility, who frequented London and Bath, and nothing seems to us to form a stronger indictment against that class than their constant absence from their estates, and the their complete Anglification under The Act of Union in 1800 promoted this vice considerably. But it was there years earlier, as these memoirs amply illustrate.

Even the very appearance of Mrs. Calvert is singularly un-Irish. The pretty pictures of her make her look like a lively French brunette, though we are told that she was

tall and fair, with blue eyes. No one would guess it from the pictures as they are here reproduced; yet we have no complaint against them. The many portraits of fashionable people — miniatures and pictures recovered mostly from Irish houses—are the most attractive feature of the volume. There are not only fascinating English men and women, but elegant and refined foreign princes reproduced, and we feel what handsome people this handsome lady must have seen around her. She was evidently lively, but it is not necessary to be Irish to have this virtue.

The stirring times of the French Empire, the Peninsular War, and the campaign of Waterloo are reflected in her pages, very faintly indeed, for she knows nothing about politics, she is no judge of art, and shines only by her domestic virtues. She seems an admirable wife and mother. Her son's letter from Waterloo, telling of his part in the two battles, is simple and modest, but not the least instructive. On the other hand, she does tell us something about Lord Cochrane, though she has not the least suspicion that he was a genius, nor a word of reprobation for the infamous sentence of Lord Ellenborough, though she tells us that there is a strong feeling abroad that Lord Cochrane was innocent, and that he was deliberately identified with the dishonest agents he had about him, for the purpose of getting rid of him from the Navy, and ruining him as a Radical politician. He had the misfortune to be under worthless superiors, whose faults he was too impatient to expose. England has hardly had a sailor equal to him except Nelson. The editor should have added to her note a few words about his subsequent adventures in South American and Greek wars, and how at last he was restored to his honours through the intervention of the Prince Consort, who got his conviction quashed—an act for which the English nation should hold the Prince in remembrance.

We have been led into this digression because the most interesting anecdote in the book is about this very hero:—

"Lord Cochrane complains sadly at not having been seconded properly [by Lord Gambier, whom he brought to a court martial] in his attack on the French [in the roads of Aix]. The French captain, whom he had taken prisoner, expressed a great wish to go on board his [burning] ship, the Vassoire, to save his papers and charts. Lord C. represented to him the great danger of doing this, as the ship might blow up at any moment. He seemed so anxious about the matter, however, that Lord C., willing to gratify him, ordered his boat to be lowered, and got into it with him. He called out, 'Well, my lads, who will volunteer to go with us?' and four or five sailors did so. When they got near the ship, owing to the heat, which was very great, one of her guns went off, killing the French captain on the spot. At the same time a little dog, terrified at the noise, jumped through one of the portholes into the sea. 'Damn it, Captain!' exclaimed the sailors, 'though it is a French dog, we will try and save its life.' And in spite of the imminent danger they rowed up and saved the dog. He proved to be a beautiful little creature [a pug], and Lord C. brought him to London."

If there were more things like that in the 'Souvenirs' they would have been very different. The editing is indifferent. The Index is deficient, and some queries show want of knowledge. Thus, "he gives a queer account of Chesta [?], who heads the Spanish forces," which should be Cuesta. Again, a note says of Grattan: "He possessed none of the gifts of an orator, but few could equal him in fervidness and originality." Our readers must explain for themselves this curious judgment.

Men and Things of my Time, by the Marquis de Castellane, translated by Alexander Teixeira de Mattos (Chatto & Windus), seems hardly a work of sufficient importance to be translated into English. Printed in large type surrounded by a wide margin, it covers barely 190 pages, which can be read in about three-quarters of an hour. In its original French it would have been more appropriately issued as a privately printed brochure. Thus circulated among M. de Castellane's personal friends, it would have afforded amusement to some of them, and annoyance to others—whose female relatives, not all deceased, are very freely treated by the author, notably on the pages relating to the "cocodettes" of the Court of the Second Empire. However, even in a not very careful English version, the book shows with what admirable literary skill an educated Frenchman, who is not a trained writer, can serve up slender material: just as almost any native of France, of either sex, can produce artistic fare out of unpromising elements, which an English professional cook would convert into an indigestible repast.

M. de Castellane was not born quite long enough ago for his reminiscences to be interesting on the ground of antiquity; but he was brought up among people who had played a conspicuous part in the early history of the nineteenth century. His mother was Pauline de Talleyrand-Périgord, daughter of the famous Duchesse de Dino and grand-niece of Talleyrand. Her son's first recollections are associated with his very rough schooldays at the Petit Séminaire of La Chapelle-Saint-Mesnim, which the translator unintelligibly calls "the little seminary of the Chapel." It was a diocesan establishment near Orleans under the supervision of Mgr. Dupanloup, who, Madame de Castellane assured her small son, was the greatest bishop since the days of Bossuet. That Gallican testimonial did not console the forlorn little boy, who looks back to the eight or ten years he spent under the Bishop of Orleans as the most wretched of his life, and so resents the treatment he received from him that he indignantly denies the current tradition that Talleyrand's "conversion was the personal work of the Abbé Dupanloup."

The most interesting passage in the book is one which gives the secret history of a speech delivered by M. de Castellane in the National Assembly on November 18th, 1873. That speech constitutes the author's sole title to fame as a legislator. It is well known to students of the 'Annales de l'Assemblée Nationale' who have investigated the origins of the Constitution of 1875, as in it M. de Castellane, when supporting the prolongation of the powers of MacMahon as President of the Republic, quoted a phrase which has become legendary to illustrate the doggedcharacter of the Marshal. Describing his valiant conduct at the Malakoff, before the taking of Sebastopol, M. de Castellane, amid the vociferous applause of the Assembly, declared that MacMahon, scorning the danger of his position, signalled to his chief the message "J'y suis, j'y reste." The phrase became in a way the device of the Marshal and the rallying-cry of his supporters. M. de Castellane now asserts that it was invented by him and his wife during the preparation of his speech. This is a good story, and bears some mark of probability, as serious historians of the Third Republic have quoted M. de Castellane's speech as the principal corroboration of the legend. Yet we are

not entirely convinced that the confessed hoaxer of the National Assembly is not now hoaxing his readers.

M. de Castellane mourns the deterioration of Parisian society since the first years succeeding the Franco-Prussian War. His laudatory descriptions of the salons which existed in the early days of the Third Republic will surprise those who imagined that the salon virtually ceased to exist with the Monarchy of July. The truth is that after the disappearance in 1870 of the brilliant and not very reputable society of the Second Empire, which had put into the shade what remained of Parisian society of an earlier epoch, the survivors of that time made an effort to revive the salon as a political campaigning ground. But when the monarchists made the monarchy impossible and surrendered power and place to the republicans, the old leaders of society grew disheartened, and when in the course of nature they disappeared, they left no successors. The decadence of Parisian society has not been entirely the fault of the Republic. Had the monarchists and les gens bien pensants acted with greater self-respect, an "opposition" society might have existed not without influence on the history of the Republic. But the younger generations of the upper class have effaced themselves politically, to some extent by their own widely advertised follies.

M. de Castellane candidly attributes the failure of his party to the dissensions of the monarchists and the union of the republicans under the skilful leadership of Gambetta. How the Legitimists and Orleanists detested one another he illustrates by the following anecdote. A dozen royalists were living together

"in the same house, where we all had our meals at one table. The Marquise de Juigné, my mother-in-law, sat at the head of it. She was a woman..... brought up in the horror of Orleanism, to which she attributed all our troubles.....The Prince de Joinville and the Duc d'Aumale, both sons of King Louis Philippe and both elected deputies, had decided, in spite of M. Thiers, to come to Versailles and take their seats in the Assembly. Although I had never seen them, I considered it my duty, as a royalist deputy, to pay them a mark of respect. 'I have been,' I said, 'to write my name in the Orleans princes' visitors' book.' The reply came literally like a shot. I had hardly finished speaking when I received a roll of bread full in the face! It did not hurt me; and by way of reprisal, I jumped up and kissed my mother-in law on both cheeks, while she apologized for her hastiness: 'I could not help it!' she cried. 'People who tried to bring shame upon the Duchesse de Berry—A woman—Their own niece.'"

A better-informed editor might have added a note to explain what Madame de Juigné meant by the words "Their own niece," which did not refer to the Prince de Joinville and the Duc d'Aumale. Three lines would have sufficed for all the information necessary about the intermarriages of the Bourbons of the elder and of the Orleans branch with their kindred of the Two Sicilies. But the "Translator's Notes" are not of this informing nature. He adds one to explain the meaning of "Cour des Miracles"; another to tell us that Lourdes, La Salette, and Paray-le-Monial are "three well-known French pilgrim resorts"; another to announce that the "Restoration" lasted from 1814 to 1830. What good does he suppose it is to say that "Badinguet is the nickname of Napoleon III." without explaining its historical origin?

The translation is on the whole fairly good; that is to say, it provides an animated narrative which should not be read too closely. Certain expressions suggest

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that Mr. de Mattos has not a complete mastery of the English language. It is misleading to call Mgr. Dupanloup an "uncouth highlander" when M. de Castellane refers to his Alpine origin. At the Duc d'Aumale's dinner-table, not on his yacht, but in his town-house, it is strange to read of "the steward pouring out a wine." Something better than "rabid sheep" might have been found for "mouton enragé"; and the "vieilles barbes de 1848" were not necessarily "grey-beards," There are no "moors" on the banks of the Loire near Chinon; and the Lycée at Orleans never had any resemblance to a "Grammar School."

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

The Dominion of Canada, by W. L. Griffith (Pitman), is the third volume of the publishers' "All Red Series," and an important addition to the rapidly growing mass of literature about Canada. The publishers could hardly have found an author better qualified than Mr. Griffith, the Secretary of the Office of the High Commissioner of Canada, to represent the premier British Dominion in a series "designed at once to quicken the interest of Englishmen in the extension and maintenance of the Empire, and to give an account of its constituent countries as they are to-day." Mr. Griffith's official knowledge of the Dominion, its progress, constitution, and affairs, is due to first-hand experience of its life, and, what is more, he knows how to write simply and directly so as to convey the knowledge he has acquired. The result is an excellent plain account of Canada, one of the best and most comprehensive yet published.

Here and there the reader will somewhat regret, even if he does not resent, the official reticence which has robbed certain passages in the book of colour and force, as, for example, the section in which many leading authorities are quoted concerning Canada's destiny and future progress. But readers should be grateful for the absence of bombast, official or otherwise, and those noisy generalities of unthinking optimism which, in Canada's graphic vernacular, are known as "hot air."

Part I. is general in character, and in the main historical, with something of a forward glance at the ultimate destiny of Canada. From this section the reader may obtain, in little more than a hundred pages of agreeably light reading, a very fair idea of the Dominion's genesis and basis of development, the outstanding events of its progress, and the character of its constitution and institutions. Part II. is concerned with Canada's people and conditions. What is called the "American invasion" is here considered in a rational and understanding spirit. We find a good picture of the French-Canadian habitant, also of the native Indian; the social life of the Dominion, its labour organizations, its Governor-General and High Commissioner.

The third section covers the constitutional history of Canada, its Parliament and polities—the latter being treated in a guarded manner—its banking and financial interests, educational system, physical features, climate, scenery, and the like. The final division of the book is devoted to the purely material interests of the country: its pro-

duction in agriculture, mining, fisheries, and manufactures.

The book is a thoroughly honest and creditable piece of work, useful rather than ornamental, informative rather than pieturesque; and, above all, trustworthy.

Mr. J. Grattan Grey, who is already favourably known as the author of a useful work on Australasia, past and present, has now republished, under the title of With Uncle Sam and his Family (Francis Griffiths), a series of articles contributed a few years ago to Australian newspapers. The contents of the book are better indicated by the sub-title, 'About People and Things American,' though even this carries a suggestion of triviality which is not fair to the volume. The 64 chapters which divide among them its 700 well-packed pages really make up a full and trustworthy, albeit pleasantly discoursive encyclopædia of information about the United States, historical, political, social, and the rest, besides being a treasury of hints for the traveller, and a collection of civic examples and exhortations particularly intended for Australian readers. The latter purpose is happily conceived; for an intelligent survey of people and things American should afford an abundance of suggestions suitable to a community, in many respects, at the same stage of social organization and material equipment as were the United States fifty years ago.

The matters in which Mr. Grattan Grey would have his countrymen take example of America are many and diverse, from such large innovations as popular election of judges and the hospitality of the open orchard the unfenced garden-demesne, down to the use of a clever contrivance for the easy lifting and lowering of railway-carriage windows. As the writer is not less courage-ous than intelligent and well-informed, he does not hesitate to point out that in some more delicate operations—the civil conduct of the mind and voice towards strangers and others, and even of the hand towards political opponents—America has good instruction to offer. As to manners, he considers that Americans are the politest men in the world. This view may conflict with certain prepossessions in the foreground of the British mind, but it is probably nearer the truth than these are. Besides, there is a great deal in the italics, which are ours. Again, it may be more useful to Australians than it can be to us to be reminded that, although in no country does a political campaign engender such a condition of excited interest as in the United States, yet attempts to disturb an opponent's meeting, still more to break it up by violence, are the last things that an American would think of doing, or would condone.

The idea of an Australian nation is strongly present in the book, and has mainly prompted the writing of it. Mr. Grattan Grey sees not only a similarity of physical conditions and working social assumptions in the Republic and the Commonwealth, but also a paramount common interest created by the menace of a yellow lordship of the Pacific. These factors, he considers, must bring about a rapprochement which will eventually range the United States, Canada, and Australia side by side in practical alliance as sentinel powers and guardians of the white race where West meets East. Already he finds an interest in Australian affairs, and a knowledge of them, far more general in the United States than in any section of English society. Upon such a

matter the observations of a man so openminded and well-disposed as Mr. Grattan Grey are worth considering.

Apart from its applications to a particular public, the book (in which husband and wife have collaborated) can be heartily commended as a well-informed account of the United States past and present. The authors break the chronicle of their journeys wherever it seems advisable, to introduce statistical, descriptive, or historical matter about things that are not of their personal observation, and right in the heart of the book there is a series of chapters summarizing the colonial and post-colonial history of the country. The general accuracy of these summaries is much more worthy of remark than the occasional errors or misapprehensions, a few of which, however, may be pointed out.

Historical criticism has not left the legend of Pocahontas in the form which the author reproduces, and the first settlers of Virginia were better men than is here said. Delaware (or "the Lower Counties" as the term was) had a separate Assembly, but not a Governor to itself, after breaking off from Pennsylvania. Franklin's Plan of Union in 1754 had nothing to do with colonial grievances or resistance: it was a scheme for imperial defence. Quakers still ruled in Pennsylvania when Indian depredations began there, and for at least a year later. Patrick Henry's speech did not "end with" the oft-quoted words about liberty or death, and it did not "precipitate" the Revolution in the least. To describe the Anti-Federalists as "opponents of the Constitution" is misleading. It would be simpler to say that they were the opponents of the political views of Hamilton, who had written in support of the Constitution under the pseudonym of "Federalist." But (and here is the origin of a world of misapprehensions) the Constitution which Hamilton advocated—"since none better was to be had "-did not represent Hamilton's views or the tendencies of his following. Burr did not "murder" him, nor even "seek a quarrel with him." Hamilton's attacks on Burr had been of an extraordinary bitterness, and would have provoked a challenge from a milder-mannered man. "Governor Morris of Pennsylvania" should be Gou-verneur Morris: quite a different person. The Mormon trek to Utah did not show the way across the Plains. The trail was worn deep into the prairie years before. all but a small minority of the first gold-seekers travel by sea. Of the Forty-Niners who arrived, 42,000 came over the Plains that year. The States Rights doctrine was not the peculiar property of the South. The right to nullify had been claimed, and threats of secession had been made, by Northern States earlier in the century. Finally, the woman (Mrs. Surratt) mentioned as among the accomplices of Booth who paid the penalty of their crime was hanged against the evidence at the time, and has since been proved innocent.

Geoffroy Chaucer. Par E. Legouis. (Paris, Bloud & Cie.)—This new volume of "Les grands Écrivains étrangers" is one which will not only be of the greatest service to the French students of our literature, but may also be read with profit on this side of the Channel. Prof. Legouis's work is, in fact, a development of the position which has often been set forth in these columns, that Chaucer is a link between old French literature and modern English. He is English, and writes in English, yet his inspiration, his outlook on life, the atmosphere, the

framework of his poems, are French-French of France, Champagne or Bourgogne, not Norman or Breton. It is true that Prof. Legouis exaggerates, not unnaturally, the direct debt of Chaucer to his French predecessors and contemporaries. The thesis of M. Sandras on the subject some halfcentury ago met with severe criticism at the time, and the "imitations de fond ou de forme dont on ne s'était pas encore avisé, des histoires transcrites, des vers traduits qui passaient pour originaux." do not in sum amount to much when we remember we are speaking of a professional story-teller, "grant translateur," and innovator. The carrying-over of a poetic form from a language in which it has been developed into another in which nothing of the kind is known is not by any means a proof of poverty of invention. English verse up to Chaucer's day was written on a funda-mentally different basis from French, and Chaucer revolutionized not only its form, but also its intimate construction. The study of Machault and Froissart, of Deschamps and Otto de Granson, contributed to his technique; they were models, not masters. His debt is deeper: "C'est son esprit même qui est français comme son nom. Il descend en droite ligne de nos trouvères, et il a tout d'eux sauf la langue.' Perhaps too (shall we add?) he has the English temperament, no longer Anglo-Saxon, and quite distinguishable from the French of his day, however deep his sympathy with them extended. Yet it is interesting to note the profound impression Chaucer has left on our author—everything but the words he speaks seems French. He will hardly allow to Italy more influence on Chaucer than it has on any other travelled French-

Prof. Legouis is familiar with recent Chaucer criticism, and puts its results before his readers with the ease and clarity which constitute a mark of good French work. A special word of praise should be given to his translations, which represent with great accuracy both the meaning and rhythm of his originals.

There is a certain nexus uniting the stories in The Celestial Omnibus, by E. M. Forster (Sidgwick & Jackson): they all have a smack of the fantastically supernatural. Two at least deal with Pan and the ancient earth gods; others are linked with the imaginative realms of faery. We are not sure that the stories can be considered wholly successful, nor are they original in their main design. In treatment, however, the author has his own methods. Occasionally, as in 'The Celestial Omnibus' and 'The Other Side of the Hedge,' we are reminded of the whimsical humour which Mr. Barry Pain once scattered over his pages. Sometimes we are frankly beaten in our effort to find a meaning, as in 'Other Kingdom.' It has atmosphere, but what is its significance? The effect of the six stories is somewhat monotonous, and a note of facetiousness is apt to spoil the narratives. They might, one concludes ultimately, have been written as a spirited "lark" by a young writer. Perhaps they have been.

Black Beetles in Amber, the fifth volume of 'The Collected Works of Ambrose Bierce' (New York, Neale & Co.), goes far to explain the references to "the terrible Mr. Bierce" which occur in writings about Californian society, especially writings by ladies. Doubtless the consciousness of seeming a satanic person to such gentle souls has contributed

a special strain of its own to the pleasure with which he has exercised, over a long period of years, a well-developed gift of literary ferocity. Perhaps it is for the same tender sakes that he has gone for once a little out of his convention, which excludes in a singular degree the motifs that attract the musketeers of letters, to chant this brief ambiguous lay (entitled 'A Rendezvous'), which we quote for the punning felicity and the lilt of it:—

Nightly I put up this humble petition,
"Forgive me, O Father of Glories,
My sins of commission, my sins of omission,
My sins of the Mission Dolores!"

Virtually the whole volume is concerned with other people's sins, the Black Beetles being the subjects preserved for the contempt of posterity, as the writer intends—si quid sua carmina possunt—in the amber of his verse. Unless his judgment has erred, they are very bad subjects indeed. With two or three exceptions, their names are only names to us, but here at least they are represented as political and municipal despoilers and jobbers, placemen and party hacks, humbugs of the pulpit and the press, whom Mr. Bierce has vituperated for the public good. Just how real may have been the value of this kind of "social service" on the Pacific Slope cannot be safely appraised by the critic whose lot is cast where there is much less freedom of speech and—we would gladly believe—not quite so much need for it. It is only fair to remember, however, that these satires were not written as a literary amusement or exercise of skill for its own sake; but that what appears mere play when republished was war, and war requiring courage as well as prowess, when it first served its purpose in the newspapers.

Their immense local effectiveness has, of course, gone with the moment, and therewith some of their quality. The value that remains is one of literature, if it is anything, and would have been greater had the writer used more moderation. At his rare best he recalls the vigour of Dryden, and more often repeats the pointedness of Pope. As an example of the first, take these lines from an address to a notorious turncoat:—

To Yesterday a traitor, to To-day
You're constant but the better to betray
To-morrow. Your convictions all are naught
But the wild asses of the world of thought,
Which, flying mindless o'er the barren plain,
Perceive at last they've nothing so to gain,
And, turning penitent upon their track,
Economize their strength by flying back.

The whole piece is equally sustained, and has some acute reflections as well. There is, indeed, abundance of cleverness, but again, as in the preceding volume, we find many a sheer excess of verbiage, or subsidence into triviality. Also there is far too free a use made of sacred names and themes, though the characteristic American irreverence is venial enough in, say, this mimicking of the smug obituary:—

Our papa dear has gone to Heaven To make arrangements for eleven.

The Sphere has brought out with great promptitude an extra number concerning actual scenes of the Coronation. The artists in the Abbey, Mr. Byam Shaw and Signor Matania, supply an excellent pictorial record of the ceremonies, and the whole number is a remarkable shillingsworth.

OXFORD NOTES.

Some of us were in the Abbey, but even more of us were not. It was no less practicable to display one's loyalty in the provinces. For the Oxford don in particular the possibilities were quite unlimited. As a member of the University he might attend the service in St. Mary's. As a member of a College he could participate in the rites proper to his own brotherhood. Thus in one College at dinner the Hall-prefect was solemnly enjoined to charge the gentlemen's solemny enjoined to charge the gentlemens glasses, and the healths of King and Queen were duly honoured, and the National Anthem was sung by dons and undergraduates together, a stately Latin grace of the genuine tradition bringing the ceremony to a fitting close. Finally, as a citizen and householder one might risk one's neck in order to plant flags along the eaves, and burn one's fingers over the lighting of Japan ese lanterns. For the rest, it was the duty of the family man to conduct his offspring to the various shows. In the morning there was the feu de joie in St. Giles, when it was apparent that individuality is in no way crushed by militarism of the Territorial type. In the afternoon there was the Fair in Port Meadow, where every wonder in the world was on view, from a sheep with six legs downwards. And in the evening there were the illuminations, when Magdalen Tower was lurid with volcanic fires, All Souls glimmered with all the hues of the rainbow, Brasenose traced out with points of light the graceful lines of its new gables, and generally there was a widespread glow of lamps amongst the venerable buildings by the Isis, whilst away on high Boar's Hill roared a Coronation honfire

A word must be said, too, about the Coronation honours. Sir William Anson, Sir John Rhys, and Sir Frederick Pollock, three Oxford men of the home circle, appear one after the other in the list of new appointments to the Privy Council—surely the solidest decoration of all that can fall to the lot of a man who has graduated in this school of political science. Sir William Osler as a Baronet will not be less accessible to his friends than he has been heretofore. The name of Sir Walter Raleigh is heard again in the land. As regards the other Oxford men to whom this or that dignity has come—and they are altogether too many to be mentioned individually—it is pleasant to have reached a time of life when one's companions of College days are beginning to figure in crowds amongst the feathered caps. It is at least as important a function of the State to bestow praise as to mete out censure and punishment, and it is a poor kind of snobbery that despises the expression of public estimation. Of course party politicians and their jobs have made one suspicious of ribbons and the like. If these things are to be had for the buying, their owner is merely convicted of a taste for the meretricious. These Coronation honours, however, would seem to have been distributed no less judiciously than liberally. A University, which has itself the privilege of granting honorary distinctions, and on the whole does so with discrimination, can fully appreciate recognition from the nation, so long as it is clear that it is really the nation, and not a pack of sectional and sinister interests, that forms the principle of award.

The Coronation notwithstanding, there can be no truce of God in the politics of University Reform. Gentlemen of the democracy, be assured, though you will not

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believe it, that we are setting our house in order as fast as ever we can! Nay, will it not satisfy you that you are now within measurable distance of obtaining a degree by means of a class in mathematics and natural science—those acquirements which are so necessary for the making and working of -without Greek, or without Latin, as you choose? You must still imbibe the rudiments-such rudiments !- of the one or the other; but then, as the utilitarians are not slow to point out, the one or the other will afford you a clue, though, maybe, an uncertain one, to the meaning of those crack-jaw terms in which men of science, despite their prejudice against the classics, incontinently rejoice. Greek, on the whole rather than Latin, is to be recommended as of greater use in this respect to the future candidate for scientific honours; though this is, perhaps, not the whole reason why Prof. Gilbert Murray insisted on putting Greek and Latin on a par as "options." Thus "theodolite" the master of Responsions Greek will perceive at a glance to sions Greek will perceive at a glance to be derived from $\tau(\theta\eta\mu\nu)$, $\delta\delta\delta$ s, and $\lambda\iota\tau\delta$ s. "Tidology," again, will be transparent to a student of unsupported Greek, since its other half is English. One type of word, however, it is to be feared, must, however serviceable and appropriate, gradually disappear from the vocabulary of Oxford science. A term such as "sociology," science. A term such as "sociology," which is half Greek and half Latin, will have to go. It is too much to expect of one brain that it should learn to decline both socius and λόγοs, and get up Comte and Herbert Spencer into the bargain.

If it is ever permissible to be frivolous, one may claim pardon for alluding in a none too serious way to this apparent settlement of a controversy which has for a long time past shaken the Oxford Colleges down to their cellars. It is not a real settlement at all, because this doctoring of Responsions is a waste of labour. Responsions is past doctoring. An examination on leaving school, not an entrance examination to the University, is the proper instrument whereby Secondary School Education may be so regulated as to make for efficiency without materialism, and, at the same time, a path to the University may be opened for those, and for those only, who are capable of profit-ing by a more or less prolonged course of higher studies. It is because those whose concern it is to organize a national leavingexamination for the Secondary Schools are so tardy and limp in the execution of this task, that Oxford has had to devise a temporary measure of relief for its science men, on the ground that a crumb of comfort is better than no bread at all. Some day we may hope to lend what support we can to a more intelligible policy designed by and for the nation as a whole. As it is, we have been merely helping to secure the normal and natural expansion of our science for the time being, it shall be fed with a sufficiency of pupils. Under still existing conditions—whether the blame be on our educational ideals, on the system followed in the schools, or on the spirit of the times —it is manifestly starved.

Mr. T. C. Snow in a recent pamphlet surely let the cat out of the bag when he suggested that Oxford was not the proper place for science men; let them go to the newer Universities. Stifled mewings to the same effect have often made themselves heard before. We are to be humanists, and to remain content with that. As if one could be a humanist without understanding Man! As if it were believable that nothing worth knowing about Man is to be learnt

from the modern biologist, or psychologist, or anthropologist! As if everything about Man were to be found in Aristotle or Hegel! For the matter of that, it is not even a question of the rights of modern studies as against ancient. Aristotle, at least, would have had no sympathy with this revolt against the discipline of hard facts. As Prof. Elliott argued the other day, in an eloquent pamphlet, mathematics and physics have a longer record in the history European thought than the humanism of the Socratic schools or the philology of the Alexandrians, and may justly claim in any University, whether old or new, to be not merely tolerated, but also respected. Respect, however, must carry with it permission to manage one's special branch of learning and education in one's own way, and to impart it to those whom one deems to show aptitude of the kind required. The members of other faculties display such solicitude for the enrolment of science men amongst the children of light that they would clap round haloes even on the longest heads. But surely the halo must conform to the head, not the head to the halo; and it is unsocial of Mr. Snow to wish to condemn those whom his own halo does not happen to fit to inhabit a little heaven all by themselves.

The other great measure of the term, that would submit the monetary arrangements of the University and the Colleges to the scrutiny of a Board of Finance, is likely to go through without serious modification of its original provisions. Congregation is beginning to tire of the amateur legislator with his eleventh-hour amendments of the destructively constructive order. It may even be that a few are disposed to play with the idea that Council is not entirely composed of knaves or fools, and has possibly given some thought to the proposals that it brings forward. Thus a solid majority of non-placets brought one amendment after another to naught, to the confusion of the small but honest party who feel about our system of accounts as Cæsar, in Plutarch's story, felt about Calpurnia. Sir William Anson was never in happier vein than when he made clear the inwardness of the scheme that provides for three financial experts—members of Convocation, but men of affairs from the greater world outside ours-who, at the invitation of the Chancellor, are to assist the six local authorities on matters fiscal. Their help was to be secured in this way-so the argument ran —or probably not at all. And, after all, the function of the Board is to be purely advisory. Yet most people will sympathize to a certain extent with the worthy person was he a College Bursar?—who is reported to have said: "If there is anything that I hate, it is a moral influence.

The events, both grave and gay, but on the whole gayer than graver, of a Summer Term when the sun has shone each day from morning to night are altogether so multitudinous as to beggar description. If any experience stands out in the present writer's memory as uniquely exhilarating, it was the visit of Prof. Bergson. Not only were his two lectures exquisite in form and of a concentrated force hardly to be matched, but during a stay of several days he was so free of himself to the philosophers who met to honour him, so ready to disclose his thoughts, even to their "ragged edge," and in every way to exemplify the ancient view of philosophy as the essence of good conversation, that his warm friends and admirers in Oxford are not fewer than his recent hosts.

As if it were believable that nothing of worth knowing about Man is to be learnt Mr. Griffith's Nubian exploration, which

have lately been on show in the Examination Schools. It must have been surprising, and at the same time gratifying, to the University, Colleges, and other subscribers to the fund to see so handsome a return for their The exhibits, which formed merely outlay. a selection of the yield of some 2,000 Meroitic graves, comprised not only a vast quantity of pottery—some of it very striking, as, for instance, a large jar showing negro captives being devoured by lionsbut also bronze vessels and other bronze objects, such as heavy anklets, in abundance, besides necklaces, rings, weapons, and, last but not least, inscribed stones. The history of the "Meroitic era," which began in the third century B.C. with the reign of a monarch who signalized his conversion to Hellenism and the Humanities by putting all the priests of Ammon to death in their own temple, will, it is hoped, be recovered from the darkness that en-shrouds it, when the archeology of the graves is worked out in the course of another year or two of excavation.

Nor is Oxford Research content even with far-off Nubia for its horizon. The Committee for Anthropology, supported by generous contributions from the Common University Fund, several Colleges, and a few private donors, has selected Mr. Jenness of Balliol, holder of our Diploma in Anthropology, to undertake the ticklish work of exploring the almost unknown D'Entrecasteaux Group off the east coast of New Guinea. Thus does extensive vie with intensive culture in a University which is both old and ever young in spirit. Responsions Greek may be our forte, but omniscience is at least our foible.

MR. MOWBRAY MORRIS.

In Mr. Mowbray Morris, who died on June 20th, the world of letters has lost a man of real distinction who always did his best to uphold a high standard of criticism.

The second son of Mr. Mowbray Morris, the well-known manager of *The Times*, Morris, who was born in 1848, was from 1860 to 1865 a King's Scholar at Eton, and afterwards passed to Merton College, Oxford. Leaving Oxford without taking a degree, he served from 1869 to 1873 as aide-de-camp to the late Sir James Fergusson when Governor of South Australia. Shortly after his return to England, Morris joined the staff of The Times, and on the death of John Oxenford was appointed to the post of dramatic critic. After six years of successful work Morris resigned the post, on finding that he could not always speak his mind freely on the actors and plays he was called upon to review. In the Introduction to the admirable volume of 'Essays in Theatrical Criticism,' which was published in 1882, Morris, once more a free man, discussed the functions of the dramatic critic with refreshing frankness and no little humour.

In 1885 Morris was appointed editor of Macmillan's Magazine, in succession to Lord Morley, and held the post until the magazine came to an end in 1907. He found the work thoroughly congenial, and no editor could have been better qualified to control a magazine of this character. A man of wide reading and sound judgment, he took a serious view of his editorial duties, and exercised freely his right of criticism and amendment. Many young writers owed much to his careful revision of their work, and even those of established reputation

were glad to accept his suggestions. at one time contributed a weekly letter to one of the leading Indian newspapers, and in this way was one of the first in this country to discern the genius of Mr. Kipling. The stories and ballads from Mr. Kipling's pen which appeared in quick succession in Macmillan's Magazine during 1889 and 1890 contained some of his finest work, and did much to lay the foundations of his fame. Another novelist in the Anglo-Indian field, Mrs. F. A. Steel, also made her first appear-ance, with 'Miss Stuart's Legacy,' in the magazine. Of the other well-known novelists who contributed to the magazine during Morris's long tenure of the editorial chair may be mentioned Mr. Hardy, R. D. Black-more, Mrs. Oliphant, Bret Harte, Clark Russell, and Marion Crawford; while his general contributors included Goldwin Smith, Walter Pater, Canon Ainger, Mr. Smith, Walter Pater, Canon Anger, and Birrell, Mr. Saintsbury, and Lady Ritchie.

His own contributions were compara-

tively few, and mostly anonymous. Thus a series of 'Leaves from a Note-Book' presented, now and again, the editor's shrewd comments on current topics or books of the day; but as a rule he considered that an editor was best employed in suggesting subjects to other writers, and in securing a proper balance and variety of articles in each number of the magazine, a point to which he paid great attention. In matters of style he was particular in the extreme, and fought strenuously against the split infinitive and the many Americanisms, journalistic and other, which, in his judgment, were steadily deteriorating our lan-guage. Towards many of the modern move-ments in literature he was frankly unsympathetic, and he viewed with regret the unhealthy tone of some recent fiction.

His great literary hero was Walter Scott, and to him, as to that great writer, the romantic side of the Jacobite cause appealed strongly, as was seen in his monographs on Claverhouse and Montrose. The latter volume appeared in the series of "English Men of Action," which he planned and edited for Messrs. Macmillan & Co. No subject more stirred his enthusiasm than military history, and his knowledge of the achieve-ments and characteristics of the leading regiments of the British Army was scarcely less minute than that of his friend Mr. John less minute than that of his friend Mr. John Fortescue, whose great History of that army owes not a little to Morris's advice and encouragement. Again, the "spacious times" of great Elizabeth, and especially the exploits, both in the Old World and the New, of the daring seamen of that age, had no more ardent admirer than Morris, as his excellent volume of 'Tales of the Spanish Main 'bears witness.

His love of the best poetry, and of his old school, was shown in the anthology which, under the happy title 'Poets' Walk,' is now included in "The Golden Treasury Series"; while no one could be long in his company without realizing how strongly he shared the feeling for Oxford to which another prime favourite of his, Matthew Arnold, gave such perfect expression in his 'Thyrsis' and 'Scholar Gipsy.' Until his health began to fail, it was his custom for some years to spend part of every summer in Oxford, and it may be doubted whether he was so thoroughly at home anywhere else except in London.

For Morris, after all, was a Londoner at heart, and the shady side of Pall Mall, and the clubs, were to him what Fleet Street was to Dr. Johnson. As a boy he had hunted and played cricket, and to the end retained his interest in these, as in other forms of manly sport. He wrote on hunting in "The Badminton Library," and he was for

years a frequenter of the pavilion at Lord's and a sound judge of the noble game.

But books and men were his chief interests, and the society of both, he felt, could best and the society of both, he left, could best be enjoyed in London. He was an excellent talker, and his prejudices, which were not a few, added piquancy to his conversation. He had been an original member of the Beefsteak Club, and rejoined it towards the end of his life. But of late years, and especially since increasing infirmities ham-pered his movements, his days were mostly passed at the Travellers' Club, and in his chambers in Brook Street, where he could freely indulge his voracious taste for reading.

In his habit of mind, as in his dress, which rather suggested the beau of the early nineteenth century, Mowbray Morris was emphatically of the old school. His character and sympathies were rooted in the past, and the so-called improvements of our age him cold. His favourite vehicle London was the four-wheeler; he strongly objected to postcards; and he rarely, if ever, used the telephone or the taxi-cab. But his very idiosynerasies had their charm, and his kindliness and geniality, and the old-world flavour and raciness of his talk, made him a delightful companion.

Though ill-health had cut him off from general society for several years, and he had been confined to his room for the last few months, he will be missed by many devoted friends, and he leaves no one quite like himself among our men of letters. He died in the house of his old friend Canon Baillie, the Rector of Rugby, to which he had been moved during the summer weather of three weeks ago in the hope that the change might restore his strength sufficiently to enable him to resume his literary work. This was him to resume his literary work. This was not to be, but one is glad to think that his last days were spent in such friendly and beautiful surroundings rather than in the solitude of London chambers, and that he now lies buried in that peaceful churchyard.

COMMERCE v. LITERATURE.

THE Secretary of the Society of Authors, writing to me on May 19th, says :-

"I note what you say about the publishers submitting proofs to the Libraries. About a year ago, when the suggestion was made, the majority of the publishers repudiated utterly the right of the Libraries to make this demand."

Mr. John Long is not among those who repudiate this demand of the Libraries, against which the Publishers' Association has made a sturdy, independent stand.

Mr. Long submitted my first author's proofs of 'Thus Saith Mrs. Grundy' to the Libraries Association. He then showed me and my brother Mr. Maurice Kenealy these same proofs blue-pencilled in parts, and he made the condition that if I rewrote my book (changing the entire plot, and doing some months' revision) to the blue-pencil standard, my novel would not be banned by the Libraries.

I never stated that the Libraries bluepencilled my proofs. But my brother and I emphatically state that months before my book was published, and while it was in the first-proof stage, I was threatened with a "ban" unless I consented to revise my book to the blue-pencil standard of some unknown

Such a "deal" as suggested is against all the best interests of literature. It is utterly un-English to attempt to so terrorize an author, and to try and force him to subordinate his creative instincts to sheer commerce and self-interest. Annestey Kenealy.

COPYRIGHT.

I BELIEVE I am expressing the feelings of all literary men when I say that we regret that there appears to have been no definite protest registered at the meeting of the Standing Committee on the Copyright Bill at the House of Commons on June 27th against the American Copyright clause which makes it impossible to obtain copyright for books unless they are printed and bound in that country.

Comment on this and other grave restric-tions on trade engineered by powerful combinations is doubtless often silenced, but on this occasion it is provided by the Federal Government, who are announced from New York, on the very day mentioned above, as beginning a suit against some of "being engaged in an unlawful conspiracy and a combination to restrain trade and commerce, to destroy and prevent competition," &c.

Surely the time has come, as Mr. Joynson Hicks put it in the Commons, when we should treat with America on equal terms.

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LIST OF NEW BOOKS.

ENGLISH. Theology.

Ceremonial of the Altar: a Guide to Low Mass according to the Ancient Customs of the Church of England, 2/6
New edition, revised and rearranged by a committee of priests, with supplementary

Henry (S.), Prophesyings and Spirit-Rappings, 6d. net.

6d. net.

Revised edition.

Henshaw (Rev. S. S.), The Romance of our Sunday Schools: a Brief Centenary Narrative of the Origin, History, and Wonderful Progress of the Sunday Schools of the Primitive Methodist Church, 1/net.

Church, 1/net.
The Morse Lecture, 1910.
Humphries (A. Lewis), The Holy Spirit in Faith and Experience, 2/6 net.
The 13th Hartley Lecture.
Morgan (G. Campbell), The Book of Genesis, 3/6
Part of The Analysed Bible.
Moslem World, July, 1/net.

Lam.

Underdown (E. M.), The French Judiciary and Bar.
A paper read in the Inner Temple Hall on January 24.

Fine Art and Archæology.

Fine Art and Archaeology.

Cox (J. Charles), Norfolk, 2 vols, 3/ net each.
Second edition, revised and extended. Part
of the County Church Series.
Forrest (H. E.), The Old Houses of Shrewsbury:
their History and Associations.
Edition de Luxe, with many illustrations.
Taylor (T. U.), Backbone of Perspective, 4/8 net.
Thompson (A. Hamilton), The Ground Plan of the
English Parish Church, 1/ net.
With 17 illustrations. One of the Cambridge
Manuals of Science and Literature.

Engravings.

Henry VII.'s Chapel, Westminster Abbey, after the Drawing by Leonard Patten, signed proof, 10/6

Poetry and Drama.

Poetry and Drama.

Barham (R. H.), The Ingoldsby Legends.
One of Nelson's Sixpenny Classics.
Bierce (Ambrose), Collected Works: Vol. VII.
The Devil's Dictionary.
For notice of an earlier volume see p. 12.
Grey Boards Series: Songs by the Way, by Margaret Blaikie; and Wishing Wood and other Verses, by Agnes S. Falconer, I/net each.
Jerome (Jerome K.), The Master of Mrs. Chilvers: an Improbable Comedy, 2/6 net.
One of the Plays of To-day and To-morrow.
For a notice of its performance see Athen.,
May 6, p. 519.

Stigand (William), Ode on the Coronation of King George V., 1/

Synge (John M.), The Playboy of the Western World, a Comedy in Three Acts, 2/6 net. New edition.

Philosophy.

Iyengar (P. T. Srinivas), Gâyatrî, 4d.

A short study from Madras of a celebrated Hindu verse.

Political Economy.

Documentary History of American Industrial Society: Vols. IX. and X. Labor Movement Scott (W. R.), The Constitution and Finance of English, Scottish, and Irish Joint Stock Companies to 1720, Vol. III., 18/ net.

History and Biography.

Lane (Henry Murray), The Royal Daughters of England and their Representatives, together with Genealogical Tables of the Royal Family from the Conquest to the Present Time, 2 vols., 105/net.

Masson (Frédéric), Napoleon and his Coronation, 12/6 net.
Translated by Frederic Cobb, with 7 illus-

trations by Félicien Myrbach. Old Edinburgh Club Book, Vol. III. With 32 illustrations.

Pedigree Register, June, 2/6 net. Edited by George Sherwood. Sherard (Robert Harborough), The Life of Oscar

Sherard (Robert Harborough), The Life of Oscar Wilde.

Third edition, with an additional chapter contributed by one of Wilde's prison warders, and a Bibliography. Illustrated with portraits, facsimile letters, and other documents.

Steiner (Bernard C.), Maryland under the Commonwealth: a Chronicle of the Years 1649-58.

One of the Johns Hopkins University Studies in Historical and Political Science.

Education.

Colgrove (C. P.), The Teacher and the School,

Tristram(H. B.), Loretto School, Past and Present, With 12 illustrations.

Philology.

Efvergren (Carl), Names of Places in a Transferred Sense in English: a Sematological

Elvergren (Carl), Names of Places in a Transferred Sense in English: a Sematological Study, 2/6 net.

Lannert (Gustaf L:son), An Investigation into the Language of 'Robinson Crusoe' as compared with that of other 18th-Century Works, 2/6 net.

2/6 net.

The author acknowledges the assistance, in reading the proof-sheets, of Mr. Grenville Grove and Mr. William Savage, English teachers at Stockholm.

New English Dictionary on Historical Principles: Team-Tezkere (Vol. IX.), 5/
Edited by Sir James A. H. Murray.

Serner (Gunnar), On the Language of Swinburne's Lyrics and Epics: a Study, 2/6 net.

Written for the Philosophical Faculty of Lund University.

School-Books.

Aristotle, De Arte Poetica Liber, 1/6
Edited by I. Bywater. New edition. Part
of the Scriptorum Classicorum Bibliotheca

of the Scriptorum Classicorum Bibliotheca Oxoniensis.
Cambridge Historical Readers, edited by G. F. Bosworth: Introductory, 1/; Primary, 1/; Junior, 1/6; Intermediate, 1/6; and Senior, 2/A new series comprising books on the concentric plan, and correlated with geography. Each volume contains a coloured frontispiece, and wave illustrations, mark and interpretations.

and many illustrations, maps, and plans.
Daudet's Le Petit Chose, Part 1, 1/6.
Edited, with notes and vocabulary, by Wm.
Robertson. In Harrap's Modern Language Series.

Series.
Guitteau (William Backus), Government and
Politics in the United States: a Textbook for
Secondary Schools, 5/ net.
With numerous illustrations.

With numerous illustrations.

Harrap's Dramatic Readers, Book III. by Augusta
Stevenson, 1/
The stories included are for the most part
adaptations of favourite tales from folk-lore.
With 11 illustrations.
Poetry and Life Series: Gray and his Poetry, 10d.
and Keats and his Poetry, 8d. Both by W. H.
Hudson.

Science.

Afforestation in Scotland, 3/ net.
Issued by the Royal Scottish Arboricultural

Society.

Boy Gardeners, 15 cents.

Relates what boys have done in a garden in

McQuade (W.), Engines and Boilers Practically Considered: a Handbook for Young Engineers on the Construction and Working of Steam, Gas, Oil, and Petrol Engines and Steam Boilers, 3/8 net.

Murdoch (W. H. F.), The Ventilation of Electrical Machinery, 3/ net.

Petch (T.), The Physiology and Diseases of Hevea Brasiliensis, the Premier Plantation Rubber Tree, 7/6 net.

Tree, 7/6 net.

Thompson (Harold Stuart), Alpine Plants of Europe, together with Cultural Hints, 7/6 net.

Trotman (S. R.), and Thorp (E. L.), The Principles of Bleaching and Finishing of Cotton, 16/ net.

Weatherhead (R.), The Star Pocket-Book, or How to Find your Way at Night by the Stars: a Simple Manual for the use of Soldiers, Travellers, and other Landsmen, 1/ net.

With a foreword by Sir Robert Ball and many illustrations.

illustrations Webb (Mrs. Mabel Edwards), Children's Gardens

1d.
One of the One and All Garden Books.
Wohlgemuth (A.), On the After-Effect of Seen Movement, 5/ net.
United States National Museum: 1843, Descriptions of a New Genus and Species of Janiridæ from the Northwest Pacific, by Harriet Richardson; 1846, The Structure and Relationships of Certain Eleutherozoic Pelmatazoa, by Edwin Kich

Fiction.

Barlow (Jane), Flaws, 6/
The scene is laid partly in a home for indigent ladies, maintained near an Irish village by a fortune made in the United States, and partly in an inland southern county, where much perturbation is caused among the inhabitants of a remote hamlet by the imagined discovery of an amateur astronomer.

Blyth (James), The Penalty, 1/net.
New edition.

Foy (Slieve), An Unnatural Mother, 6/
A novel of strong interest by an Irish writer, the principal character being a selfish, designing woman of the world who compromises her daughter's honour in the effort to advance her own interests.

own interests.

Gould (Nat) The King's Favourite, 1/ net.

Another of the author's tales of the turf.

Grinshaw (Beatrice), When the Red Gods Call,

Papuan adventures with a strong love interest rising out of the complexities subsequent upon a mixed marriage.

a mixed marriage.

Harraden (Beatrice), Interplay, 7d. net.

New edition.

Le Queux (William), The Indiscretions of a Lady's

Maid: being some Strange Stories related by

Mademoiselle Mariette le Bas, Femme-de-

Mademoiselle Mariette le Bas, Femme-de-Chambre, 6/
Lloyd (Ellis), Love and the Agitator, 6/
Pleasantly reflects current phases of Celtic life and thought while tracing the career of a collier's boy from the position of check-weigher at the pithead to that of Labour representative for a Welsh constituency.
Long's Sixpenny Cloth Novels: Boothby's In Spite of the Czar; and Marsh's The Garden of Mystery.

Moor (Charlotte), Miss Vaughan, 6/
A South African escapade in which the title-

A South African escapade in which the title-role is played by a young man of quixotic impulse.

impulse..
Scott (Winifred May), The Serpent: a Tale of the Chiltern Hills, 6/
The scene of the story opens in the diamond fields of South Africa, then changes to the Chiltern Hills.

General Literature.

Birmingham City Financial Statement for the Year ended 31st March, 1911. Footpath Way (The): an Anthology for Walkers,

2/6 net.

With an introduction by Hilaire Belloc.

Heath (Francis George), British Rural Life and

Heath (Francis George), Britanian Labour, Labour, Open Window, June, 1/net.
Pankhurst (E. Sylvia), The Suffragette: the History of the Women's Militant Suffrage Movement, 1905–1910, 6/net.
Post Office: an Historical Summary, 9d.
Rutter (Frank), 'Varsity Types: Scenes and Characters from Undergraduate Life, 3/net.
Second edition.
Statesman's Year-Book, 1911, 10/6 net.
Paraitorial and Boy Scout Service: an Exposition

Territorial and Boy Scout Service: an Exposition of the National Service League's Fallacies, by V. S. L., 6d. net.

Webb (Sidney and Beatrice), The Prevention of Destitution, 6/ net.

Pamphleis.

Insurance Bill and the Workers.

Criticisms and amendments of the National Insurance Bill prepared by the executive committee of the Fabian Society.

Moore (George Fleming), Notes from India, and

Co-Masonry, Reprinted from The New Age.

FOREIGN.

Theology.

Réville (J.), Les Phases successives de l'Histoire des Religions, 3fr. 50. Lectures delivered at the Collège de France. Issued as part of the Annales du Musée Guimet.

Fine Art and Archæology.

Maraghiannis (G.), Antiquités crétoises, II. Série, Texte de G. Karo, 24m. Thieling (W.), Der Hellenismus in Kleinafrika,

Thulin (C.), Die Handschriften des Corpus agrimensorum romanorum, 9m.

Poetry and the Drama.

Csiky (G.), Les Déclassés, Pièce en quatre Actes.

Translated by P. Bert de la Bussière as part
of the Bibliothèque Hongroise.

Yovanovitch (Yoyslav M.), 'La Guzla ' de Prosper

Mérimée: Étude d'Histoire romantique, 12fr.
The volume, which has a preface by M.
Augustin Filon, has gained for the author the
title of Doctor from the University of Grenoble.

Political Economy.

Parow (W.), Die englische Verfassung seit 100 Jahren u. die gegenwärtige Krisis, 4m. 80.

History and Biography.

Berzeviczy (Albert de), Béatrice d'Aragon, Reine de Hongrie, 1457-1508, Vol. I. Another volume of the Bibliothèque Hongroise.

grouse. Goyau (G.), Bismarck et l'Église: le Cultur-Kampf, 1870-78, 2 v. ls., 8fr. Hanotaux (G.), La Fleur des Histoires françaises, 3fr. 50.

Roz (F.), Tennyson, 2fr. 50. In the series Les grands Écrivains étrangers.

Education.

Villey (Pierre), L'Influence de Montaigne sur les Idées pédagogiques de Locke et de Rousseau, 3fr. 50.

The author, who is a lecturer at the Univer-sity of Caen, has published two other works on Montaigne.

Montaigne.

Philology.

Landry (Eugène), La Théorie du Rythme et le Rythme du français déclamé, 7fr. 50.

Science.

Richter (Claire), Nietzsche et les Théories biologiques contemporaines, 3fr. 50.

Fiction.

Bonnel (Alexandre), Titine, la mystique amour-euse, 3fr. 50. Introduces some psychological problems.

General Literature.

Barton (Francis Brown), Étude sur l'Influence de Laurence Sterne en France au dix-huitième Siècle, 3fr. 50.

The author is a Doctor of the University of Paris.

Carnet d'Épicure, No. I., Juin, 6d.

Intended to be a monthly review of the arts the table. Has an English translation of

Intended to be a monthly review of the arts of the table. Has an English translation of some new recipes.

Landor (W. S.), Hautes et Basses Classes en Italie (Fragments), 1fr. 50.

Translated by Valery Larbaud as part of the Nouvelle Collection Britannique.

Türkenbulle Pabst Calixtus III., ein deutscher Druck von 1456 in der ersten Gutenbergtype.

A facsimile, in a limited issue, edited by Paul Schwenke as No. I. of Seltene Drucke der Königlichen Bibliothek zu Berlin.

** * All books received at the Office up to Wednesday Morning will be included in this List unless previously noted. Publishers are requested to state prices when sending books.

Literary Gossip.

MRS. HENRY DE LA PASTURE'S new novel 'Master Christopher' will be published by Messrs. Smith & Elder next week. The scene is laid partly in Switzerland, and partly in the West Country which the author is fond of describing. The story deals with the coming together of a brother and sister, who in consequence of the separation of their parents have grown up apart, and unknown to each other, and, underlying its lightness is a vein of the tragedy of consequences.

'ENTER CHARMIAN: A COMEDY IDYLL OF MOORSIDE,' by Mr. Harold Vallings, the author of 'Lady Mary of Tavistock' and other novels, which the same firm will publish about the middle of this month, is a Devonshire story, in which a sly, apparently stolid gardener, who is more of a poacher, is a prominent character.

In The Scottish Historical Review for July Mr. Maitland Anderson, largely from Continental archives, traces the rising fortunes of St. Andrews University five hundred years ago. Prof. Firth edits two capital Killiecrankie ballads, both contemporary—one by a foe, the other by a friend of Bonny Dundee. Mr. F. C. Eeles reprints a Church of England thanksgiving anniversary service framed in 1603, after the Union, for the preservation of King James from the "devilish and bloody conspiracie of Earle Gowrie" three years before. Sir Herbert Maxwell's version of the Lanercost Chronicle reaches the—to the chronicler—doleful epoch of Bannockburn. Mr. Julian Corbett offers proof that the Tobermory Armada-wreck could not have been a treasure-ship; and Mr. A. F. Steuart re-identifies Prince Charlie's favourite, Jenny Cameron.

THE published price of Messrs. Macmillan's useful "Highways and Byways Series" has been changed to five shillings net.

WE are sorry to notice the death on Monday last of Mr. S. H. Jeyes, for many years chief leader-writer and assistant editor of *The Standard*. Mr. Jeyes, who was a good classical scholar, lectured for a while on that subject at Oxford, but decided to devote himself to literature and journalism, and joined *The St. James's Gazette* in 1887. Besides translating Juvenal, he wrote 'The Life and Times of the Marquis of Salisbury,' and two books on Mr. Chamberlain.

A good historian with a sound knowledge of life and politics, he did very useful work on the press, and will be regretted by many friends. Men of such culture who work steadily for their paper and shun self-advertisement are increasingly rare in journalism, but it will be an evil day for the press when they are hustled out of existence. ANOTHER author whose genial presence will be missed is the Rev. William J. Loftie, well known as a writer on London and a keen antiquary. Mr. Loftie published 'Memorials of the Savoy' at the time when he was Assistant Chaplain of the Chapel Royal, and, besides several books in art and archæology, a long series of guides and other publications concerning London. He died on June 16th at the age of 71, and, though obviously weakened of late by the results of a severe operation, maintained his keen interest in literary life and talk, being a familiar figure at the Savile Club.

The death is also recorded of Mr. David Scott, Librarian and Curator of Peterhead Art Gallery and Museum, in his 72nd year. He was for many years connected with the firm which published the Peterhead Sentinel, and edited and published a collection of local poems and articles, entitled 'The Grass of Parnassus,' and several books about the Buchan district. When Mr. Scott severed his connexion with the Sentinel, he was appointed to the post mentioned above.

The firm of Seeley & Co., which was transferred in 1795 to London, and founded about fifty years earlier in Buckingham, will be known in future as Seeley, Service & Co. Mr. F. Stanley Service, whose name is now added, joined Mr. Richmond Seeley in partnership in 1903, so that no change of management will be made.

Prof. Julius Rodenberg, the well-known writer and editor of the Deutsche Rundschau, celebrated his 80th birthday on June 26th. To commemorate this auspicious event Prof. Lederer has designed a bronze medal in which the profile of the veteran writer is admirably reproduced.

A SLIGHT variation has been made in the arrangements, notified in these columns a few weeks ago, for the evidence to be taken by the Royal Commission on Public Records. The Commissioners have now decided to take evidence bearing on the Public Record Office only, during the remainder of the summer and in the autumn. They have now taken the evidence of the officials concerned, and will proceed in the near future to hear a number of distinguished historical scholars and antiquaries who have consented to give evidence. Parties of the Commissioners have recently visited the French and Belgian archives; and the possibility of a visit to the Dutch archives during the vacation is under consideration.

It is expected that the Commission will resume its inspection of the Departmental Records before next Christmas, and take further evidence on the subject.

THE ASSOCIATED BOOKSELLERS OF GREAT BRITAIN AND IRELAND are meeting this year at Cambridge on the 15th inst. There will be a dinner at the Lion Hotel, and a garden party in Emmanuel College.

THE ENGLISH GOETHE SOCIETY will celebrate its twenty-fifth anniversary from the 3rd to the 8th inst. The arrangements include visits to Cambridge and Stratford-on-Avon; and guests from the German Goethe Society are expected.

VISCOUNT IVEAGH has presented two plots of ground to the governing body of University College, Dublin, for the erection of new buildings.

The death is announced of M. Ulric de Fonvielle, a man of varied talents, at the age of 78. He studied art under Yvon, and was for some years an exhibitor at the Salon. He next turned to journalism, and after taking part in the American Civil War and fighting in Italy on the side of Garibaldi, he returned to France and became attached to La Marseillaise. He was Victor Noir's companion at the historic interview with Prince Pierre Bonaparte when Noir was shot. He took part in the Franco-Prussian War, and was condemned to death by the Commune, but found a refuge at Marly in the house of Sardou. After the war he again took up journalism and painting; he continued to exhibit at the Salon until recently. As far back as 1861 he published his 'Souvenirs d'une Chemise Rouge.'

'BARNABÉ RUDGE,' a French translation of Dickens's novel, is now to be had, we notice, in two volumes, at two francs.

M. RIVIÈRE of Paris, a distinguished member of the French Bar, has been engaged for some years upon an idiomatic French, German, and English dictionary, which is now well advanced.

The classical scholar Prof. O. Gilbert, whose death in his 72nd year is announced from Goslar, was for many years Director of the University Library of Halle. He was the author of several interesting works, among them 'Rom und Karthago in ihrer gegenseitigen Beziehung,' 'Griechische Götterlehre,' and 'Die meteorologischen Theorien des griechischen Altertums.'

The following Parliamentary Papers recently published may be of interest to our readers: Intermediate Education Board for Ireland, Rules for 1912 (post free 4d.); Preliminary Report, with Tables, of the Census for England and Wales (post free 1s. 8d.); Brasenose College, Oxford, Statutes (post free 1½d.); Elementary School Teachers' Superannuation Rule (post free 1d.); Board of Education, Further Papers re Registration of Teachers (post free 6½d.); Statute for the University College of Dublin (post free 4½d.); and Emigration and Immigration Tables for 1910 (post free 6d.).

NEXT week we shall pay special attention to Educational Literature and School-books.

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SCIENCE

Marriage, Totemism, and Religion: an Answer to Critics. By Lord Avebury. (Longmans & Co.)

When one of the fathers of anthropology is moved to speak, the children, if they do not happen to agree, had better hold their tongues. Lord Avebury as Sir John Lubbock lectured at the Royal Institution upon 'The Origin of Civiliza-tion and the Primitive Condition of Man' more than forty years ago; and his exceptional powers of insight—one might almost say, of divination-at once led him to hit on the problems that have remained cardinal for anthropology from that day up to the present. Since it is more than half the battle in science to ask the right questions, he might rest content with the universal acknowledgment that, in this respect at least, the value of his pioneer work is wellnigh absolute. But here he puts forward the further claim to have not only asked the right questions, but likewise to have supplied the right answers to them. Rightness, however, in the case of answers that depend on an ever-growing mass of empirical observations, cannot but be at most a matter of degree. Constructive theories of the soundest workmanship must in the process of time submit to restatement. Their common fate is, not to be refuted, perhaps, but rather to be refined on.

Lord Avebury, however, defies time and its revenges. He believes himself to have all the new facts on his side. And as for his critics, he disposes of them one after another with no less elegance than dispatch. Only once does he seem for a moment to drop the decorous forms of the duello, and that is when Mr. Lang in 'The Making of Religion' confesses, in regard to certain reported cases of clair-voyance, second-sight, crystal-gazing, and the like, that he regards them, "though they seem shadowy, as grounds of hope, or at least as tokens that men need not yet despair." Cries Lord Avebury in his unbridled displeasure:—

...

"For my part I look forward with hope; but if I were to despair, it would be to see some of our ablest intellects still clinging to the most childish superstitions of the darkest ages and the lowest savages."

In a previous passage, after telling us that he had characterized as "credulous and ignorant" missionaries who believed, as did Williams and apparently Fison, that the Polynesian wizards really possessed the supernatural powers that they claimed, he allows that he came afterwards to feel "that I had expressed myself with the impetuosity of youth." Even whilst we commiserate with Mr. Lang, we cannot but congratulate Lord Avebury on the fact that, though forty years or more have rolled over his head

in the meantime, the "heyday in the blood" is not yet tamed.

The book falls roughly into two divisions, the first dealing with speculations about the origins of marriage and the exogamous rule; the second with the relation of magic to religion, and the question whether peoples who have magic may yet be utterly irreligious. As regards the former set of topics, Lord Avebury has always held that there must have been a time when human marriage in the sense of "an exclusive relation of one or more men to one or more women, based on custom, recognised and supported by public opinion, and, where law exists, by law "in a word, marriage as an institution—did not exist at all. To describe, as he did, such a state of promiscuity as "communal marriage" verged, perhaps, on verbal inconsistency; his plain intention, how-ever, was to lay it down that this condition was not marriage proper, but quite the reverse. Thereupon he supposes the practice of capturing wives from outside the group to have somehow arisen in a form that allowed each man to possess in peace the captive of his bow and spear. It is a little curious that the primitive communism of his hypothesis did not extend to the spoils of war, and a little incompatible with what we hear of the privileges of the savage "best man" whose assistance is required when bride-raiding is on foot; but let these difficulties pass. Finally, a foreign lady becomes de rigueur; the homely maiden, like a certain type of medical degree once obtainable in the University of Bologna, is merely buona per l'estero; and we are in full exogamy. Lord Avebury easily convicts his critics of having no evidence that goes back to the really primal prime. But in this region of "Just so Stories" what is to be the test of veridical vision? It would seem that here the major type of seer contends on equal terms with the minor, if the rule of the game be that whatever fact does not square with his particular pet theory is to be set aside by each as belonging to a later development.

On the subject of the relation between magic and religion Lord Avebury does little more than eloquently proclaim his adherence to a special mode of defining these most equivocal words. He does not accept Dr. Tylor's "minimum definition of religion," namely, the belief in spiritual beings. "They are beings differing from living men, but are not gods, nor are they worshipped. The difference is essential; it is not one of degree, but of kind." Again, "magic is not only not religion, but the very opposite of religion." What, then, is religion? Lord Avebury provides no exact definition, but his view is to be gathered from a passage about the ceremonies of the Australians. These are

"in no way of a religious character. They contain no prayers or confessions, no offerings or sacrifices, no appeal for help or forgiveness to any superior power. They are gone through as immemorial customs, and when any meaning is attached to them, it is as

a form of magic, an attempt to control nature and secure material advantages—mainly rain or food."

Here, as is perhaps inevitable in a work that is primarily controversial, Lord Avebury deals in concepts to which he is tempted to give the hardest outlines. In his 'Origin of Civilization' he is more ready to compromise. Thus he says there: "The lower forms of religion are almost independent of prayer. To us prayer seems almost a necessary part of religion." The present work has dropped the "almost." Or again, he writes in his constructive treatise:—

"I have felt doubtful whether this chapter should not be entitled 'the superstitions' rather than 'the religion' of savages; but have preferred the latter, partly because many of the superstitious ideas pass gradually into nobler conceptions, and partly from a reluctance to condemn any honest belief, however absurd and imperfect it may be. It must, however, be admitted that religion, as understood by the lower savage races, differs essentially from ours; nay, it is not only different, but even opposite."

Quite so. Opposition and essential difference are not incompatible with generic unity, and in particular with the generic unity, or rather continuity, that is displayed by something that grows, as does the spiritual life of man.

Lord Avebury gallantly returns to the charge again and again on behalf of his "sailors, traders, and philosophers, Roman Catholic priests and Protestant missionaries, in ancient and in modern times," who have declared that they were acquainted with low races that had no religion. No doubt these honest persons were perfectly right from their own point of view. But were they dealing in concepts so framed as to further the purposes of anthropological science? That is the only question before us. In his 'Origin of Civilization' Lord Avebury started on his chapter about religion with a laudable desire to keep in touch with the prejudices of respectable persons. "I shall endeavour," he says,

"to avoid, as far as possible, anything which might justly give pain to any of my readers. Many ideas, however, which have been, or are, prevalent on religious matters, are so utterly opposed to our own that it is impossible to discuss the subject without mentioning some things which are very repugnant to our feelings."

Surely these scruples are out of place in anything but a popular work. For pure science all things are pure. The question is not, "Have savages got our religion, or anything like our religion?" Science requires us to make the personal equation even here. If the word "religion" is going to cause all this trouble, better drop it altogether, though certainly not in order to substitute the equally question-begging word "superstition." Count Goblet d'Alviella's "comparative hierology" is none the worse as a scientific expression for being clean out of reach of traders and sailors and missionaries, and readers whose feelings need to be respected. Is the churinga of the

Central Australian sacred for him? Let us ask Lord Avebury. He has far too good a grip on the facts—we willingly grant that he has the facts—to say "no." But is the Australian's attitude of mind magical or is it religious? It really matters little what you call it, so long as it be recognized that the churinga forms the pivot of ceremonies that not merely bring to the participants food and rain— in a word, material blessings—but likewise make them "strong" and "good" and "glad." For so at least the natives affirm, and, pace respectable Europeans, they surely know best.

There are some slips in the editing. "Durckheim" and "Reinack" deserve better of the printer; Prof. Hartland's 'Rise of Fatherhood' is known neither in academic nor bibliopolist circles; and "whether I could, or have, pushed my suggestion 'to extremes'" is better sense than grammar.

OUR LIBRARY TABLE.

PROF. J. ARTHUR THOMSON writes well. but his gifts of ease of diction and lucidity of statement always appear to most advantage when he is dealing with abstruse scientific problems. In The Biology of the Seasons (Melrose), however, the expression of a thought is sometimes obscured by the prolixity of the style. The title forms a text for a series of discourses upon biological subjects, the main thesis of which is that "life is rhythmic, and that the seasons punctuate it." They are intended to be a help to the modern method of "nature study," by directing the practical work of the student towards the analysis and appreciation of the deeper underlying causes of the phenomena of life. Though the chapters are of unequal value, each is full of interest. One of the best is styled 'The Plasticity of Life.' It brings forcibly before the reader

"the contrast between constancy and novelty, between continuity and new departures, between inertia and changefulness. On the one hand, there is the remarkable constancy between successive generations, the persistence of a specific average, the racial inertia; on the other hand, there is the continual emergence of the new, the abundant crop of new departures, the racial mutability."

There are omissions, as, for instance, in the chapter on 'The Fall of the Leaf.' Most people have a vague idea of the reasons for this phenomenon, and it would seem natural to explain how the large class known as "evergreens" have, in a sense, become exempt from it; but the subject is not touched. 'The Biology of the Seasons' is a book for all who love the country. No one who is in any degree sensible to the beau-ties of nature can fail to derive enjoyment from it.

In Evolution Prof. Thomson has—as in a former well-known biological work—Prof. P. Geddes as his coadjutor. Their volume P. Geddes as his coadjutor. Their volume is one of the "Home University Library of Modern Knowledge" now being brought out by Messrs. Williams & Norgate. If the same high standard is maintained in subsequent volumes, there should be no doubt as to their success.

Only a bare outline can be traced in the allotted space of two hundred and fifty

pages, but it is sketched in vigorous lines. Evidences from the paleontological record, from embryology and physiology, are reviewed, and then the authors pass to the advance of knowledge consequent upon the discovery of the cellular origin of living organisms. Variation and heredity, natural selection and the interaction between selection and the interaction between the organism and its environment, are considered; and finally the relation between evolution and social progress is discussed.

It was Kühne who, after an extended inquiry, said at Cambridge in 1898 that most physiologists were advocates of the physicochemical theory of life, and that the majority of naturalists preferred a theory of an intrinsic vital force. Our authors are naturalists, and their leanings are towards vitalism, or even psychology, as a means of pene-trating "deeper and deeper into the very germs and origins of life." As they have previously suggested in 'The Evolution of Sex,' they consider the progress of organic evolution to be social rather than individual. To them its ideal is no gladiators' show, no internecine strife, but an Eden; and, with Kropotkin, they would see no longer struggle, but love, as "creation's final law.

Health and Disease, by W. Leslie Mackenzie, is another volume of the useful "Home University Library." Dr. Leslie "Home University Library." Dr. Leslie Mackenzie writes with a full knowledge of his subject, for he is the medical member of the Local Government Board for Scotland. He naturally directs his attention to health and disease in their widest aspects as they affect the public weal. He explains what has been done and what still remains to be done, and has brought his book so well up to date that he includes an account of the new Insurance Bill. and shows what benefits are expected to accrue from it. His account is easy to to accrue from it. His account is easy to read and can be understood by those who are interested in the public health without having any technical knowledge of the subject. Incidentally he tilts at unnecessary length against the use of the term "diathesis." A briefer statement of his correct views upon the subject would have allowed him space for some of the many topics he has been obliged to omit. There is also a short account of books that may be read by those who wish to learn more about health and disease.

In The Reduction of Domestic Mosquitos (Murray) Dr. E. Halford Ross points out the dangers to public health which are caused by the presence of infected mosquitos. He traces the life-history of the insects, telling of their methods of breeding, development, and distribution, and shows how easily they may be destroyed, at a comparatively reasonable cost to the community, if they are attacked in a proper manner. He estimates the expense as being equivalent to a rate of sixpence a head of the population. In return for this outlay judiciously applied he says that with the destruction of mosquitos "the unhealthy, pallidated the says that with the destruction of mosquitos "the unhealthy, pallidated the says that with the says that with the says that we have the says that w cheeked children, the unemployed men, and the sick wife disappear; misery becomes ameliorated; professional beggars vanish, factories begin work again even in the summer, and there is no need for the workshops to close." Port Said, Ismailia, Havana, Rio, New Orleans, Klang, Santos, Colon, Panama, and many other towns which were once hotbeds of disease, are now free from the pest of mosquitos.

The whole book is evidently the outcome of personal experience and observation. It is full of good suggestions and practical

details which should make it useful to those for whose guidance it is especially written — municipalities, town councils, health officers, sanitary inspectors, and residents in warm climates. The illustrations are good.

SOCIETIES.

ROYAL. June 15 .- Sir Archibald Geikie, Presi-ROYAL.—June 15.—Sir Archibald Geikie, President, in the chair.—The Croonian Lecture was delivered by Prof. T. G. Brodie, on 'A New Conception of the Glomerular Activity.'

Conception of the Glomerular Activity.

The following papers were read: 'On the Action of Senecio Alkaloids and the Causation of Hepatic Cirrhosis in Cattle,' by Mr. Arthur R. Cushny,—'Note on Developmental Forms of T. brucei (pecaudi) in the Internal Organs, Axillary Glands, and Bone-marrow of the Gerbil,' by Mr. G. Buchanan,—and 'A Preliminary Note on the Extrusion of Granules by Trypanosomes,' by Capt. W. B. Fry.

on the Extrusion of Granules by Trypanosomes, by Capt. W. B. Fry.

Society of Antiquaries.—June 15.—Dr. C. H. Read, President, in the chair.

Prof. Haverfield read a paper on 'Roman Remains found at Corbridge (Corstopitum) in 1910.' The chief point to which he directed attention was the identification of the large enclosure to which the name Forum had been tentatively given. Comparison with plans of known fora was against this being the right ascription, as there were no traces of a basilica or of the ambulatory, a constant feature in such buildings. It had been suggested that the building might be the principia of a military station, but here again its plan did not compare in every respect with that of such structures. Prof. Haverfield's own suggestion was that Corstopitum was a depot for the armies working in the North, and that this building was to be looked upon as a large enclosure for the cattle which would be necessary for provisioning the armies. Amongst the finds exhibited from the site were a series of flules, some pins of the hand type, a small enamelled plaque, and some scale armour.

Mr. Reginald Smith read a paper on the ancient lake-dwellings discovered by Mr. Thos. Boynton at Ulrome and elsewhere in Holderness. The best example of these settlements was known as West Furze, on the Skipsea drain, and consisted of two floors or platforms made of tree-trunks laid horizontally, packed with brushwood, and held in position by piles driven into the peat or gravel. The upper level yielded the only piece of metal found on the site—a spear-head of the late Bronze Age—and contained piles sharpened with a metal tool, whereas those below were trimmed in a primitive fashion with stone axes, apparently in the neolithic period. The complete excavation of the site was suggested by the discovery of a number of adzes, made of the radius of the ox, in the drain which had been cuthrough the lake-dwellings, the narrowness of the original mere at this point giving security from attack, and at the same time access to pa and a similar find in peat at Newbury with remains of lake-dwellings was significant; but the reinder was not extinct in Scotland till the Middle Ages. The pottery, on the other hand, seems to be mainly of the early Iron Age, devoid of ornament, and made without the wheel; and while later occupation of such dwellings was unlikely, it was difficult at present to say when this system of construction was first introduced into Britain. The entire series of finds would be presented to the British Museum by Mr. Boynton, to whom the author owed much of the information in the paper.

ROYAL NUMISMATIC.—June 15.—Sir Henry H. Howorth, President, in the chair.—Messrs. R. Assheton Coates and A. H. Cooper-Prichard were elected Fellows.—The Annual Report of the Council was placed before the meeting, and

adopted.

The President presented the silver medal of the Society to Dr. Oliver Codrington for his long and

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distinguished services to Oriental numismatics and archæology. After Dr. Codrington had replied, the President delivered his annual address, in which he reviewed the progress of numismatic science during the past year.

The result of the ballot for the election of office-bearers for the ensuing year was announced, and the following were declared elected: President, Sir Henry H. Howorth; Vice-Presidents, Sir Arthur J. Evans and Mr. Herbert A. Grueber; Secretaries, Messrs. J. Allan and F. A. Walters; Foreign Secretary, Mr. G. F. Hill; Librarian, Dr. O. Codrington; Treasurer, Mr. Percy H. Webb; Council, Miss Helen Farquhar, Mr. G. C. Brooke, Dr. Barclay V. Head, the Rev. Dr. Headlam, and Messrs. L. M. Hewlett, L. A. Lawrence, J. G. Milne, Max Rosenheim, Bernard Roth, and Henry Symonds.

LINNEAN.—June 15.—Dr. A. B. Rendle, V.P., n the chair.—Mr. G. H. Wailes, Miss F. Bage, Mr. M. Wilson, Miss A. C. Halket, and Mr. E. Lee were admitted Pellows.—Mr. W. N. Jones was

n the chair.—Mr. G. H. Wailes, Miss F. Bage, Mr. M. Wilson, Miss A. C. Halket, and Mr. E. Lee were admitted Fellows.—Mr. W. N. Jones was elected a Fellow.

A letter congratulating Sir Joseph Hooker on his approaching 94th birthday was read and signed by the Chairman and the Fellows present.

The first paper, 'On the Anatomy of Enhalus acoroides, Rich.,' by Miss H. M. Cunnington was explained by Prof. Percy Groom, after the introduction had been read by Dr. O. Stapf.—The second paper, by Prof. Imms, 'On the Life-History of Croce filiormis, Westw.,' communicated by Prof. A. Dendy.

Next followed a group of papers on insect-collections from the islands of the Indian Ocean, our dealing with various groups of Hymenoptera, one with Lepidoptera, and three with Diptera. The first was by Prof. J. J. Kieffer, on parasitic Hymenoptera of the family Cynipidæ, or gall-wasps. The second paper was by the same author, dealing with the group of small and minute parasitic Hymenoptera known as Proctotrupoidea. The third paper was on the bees obtained by the expedition to the Seychelles and Aldabra in 1908–9 by Prof. T. D. A. Cockerell of the University of Colorado. This was followed by the paper of Mr. G. Meade-Waldo on the wasps (Diploptera) obtained by the expedition.

Mr. J. C. F. Fryer's paper dealt with all the Lepidoptera obtained by the expedition of 1908–9, excepting the plume-moths, and the Tortrices and Tineina, which were worked out some time ago, by Mr. Bainbrigge Fletcher and Mr. Meyrick respectively.

The next two papers were by Mr. J. E. Collin, on two families of small and obscure flies, the Borboridæ and Phoridæ. The last paper was by Mr. F. V. Theobald, on the mosquitos obtained by the expedition.

Prof. Dendy, Mr. F. Enock, and Dr. G. B. Longstaff (visitor) spoke on various points raised in the papers.

The last paper, by Mr. F. Summers, on the 'Coast Vegetation of South-West Lancashire,'

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Frof. Fendy, Mr. F. Enock, and Dr. G. B. Longstaff (visitor) spoke on various points raised in the papers.

The last paper, by Mr. F. Summers, on the 'Coast Vegetation of South-West Lancashire,' was read in title.

Mr. F. Enock showed a series of slides illustrating several species of the minute hymenopteron Mymar, especially the recently discovered M. regalis from Burnham Beeches.—Dr. G. Henderson exhibited a lantern-slide made from a snapshot of the head of a waterbuck, 'Cobus ellipsiprymune, taken by his son, Mr. F. L. Henderson, at Nairobi.—Mr. W. Fawcett showed (4) A parasitic flowering plant from Jamaica (Scybalium jamaicense, Schott & Endl.); (b) flowers of Banana (Musa paradisiaca, var. sapientum).—Mrs. Longstaff showed a specimen of Brassia caudata, Lindl., in flower, from Jamaica.—Sir Frank Crisp exhibited on behalf of Mr. William Morris a monstrous proliferation of a foxglove, in which the terminal flower had attained an extraordinary development.

an extraordinary development.

The next meeting will be held on Thursday,
November 2nd.

ZOOLOGICAL.—June 13.—Mr. E. T. Newton in the chair.—Mr. H. G. Plimmer, Pathologist to the Society, presented a Report on the Pathological Examination of Rats caught in the Regent's Park and in the Society's gardens: 500 rats had been examined between the 1st of January and the 17th of May, 1911, all in a similar manner. Mr. R. I. Pocock exhibited the skin and skull of a crested rat (Lophiomys ibeanus), sent from British East Africa by Mr. R. B. Woosnam.—Dr. R. W. Shufeldt sent a photograph he had taken of a living specimen of a male albino woodchuck, Arctomys monax, from Virginia, U.S.A.—Mr. R. E. Holding exhibited and made remarks upon the horns of a Highland ram, a fallow deer, and a roebuck,

which were fused at the base, and also the skull of a coursing greyhound with abnormal dentition. Dr. R. E. Drake-Brockman read a paper on antelopes of the genera Madoqua and Rhynchotragus found in Somaliland, specimens of most of which were exhibited.—The Hon. Paul A. Methuen communicated a paper 'On an Amphipod from the Transvaal.'—A paper was contributed by Mr. R. Lydekker on three African animals. The first specimen was the skull of a Somali rhinoceros, a race for which the author adopted the name Rhinoceros bicornis somalicus, Potocki. A klipspringer skull from Northern Nigeria was described as the type of a new race, Oreotragus saltator porteusi. Finally, a gazelle from Algeria was referred to a new species, Gazella hayi.—A paper entitled 'A Contribution to the Ornithology of Western Colombis,' by Mr. C. E. Hellmayr, was communicated by Dr. P. L. Sclater. The memoir was based on a collection made by Mr. M. G. Palmer in 1908 and 1909.—Mr. R. I. Pocock gave an account of a paper by Angel Cabrera on the subspecies of the Spanish ibex.

HISTORICAL.—June 15.—The Rev. W. Hunt, V.P., in the chair.—The following were elected Fellows: Mrs. Cuthell, Canon Hensley Henson, Mr. W. O. Smith, and Mr. J. H. Wardell.—Messrs. J. Foster Palmer and T. Cato Worsfold were re-elected auditors for the Fellows.—A Paper was read by Miss M. Lane on 'The Diplomatic Relations between England and Denmark,' 1689-97.' The Chairman, Mr. R. G. Marsden, and the Director took part in the discussion.

Society of Biblical Archeology.—June 14.
—Prof. Sayce read an account of journeys he had made through the district between the Euphrates and Aleppo, part of which had previously been unexplored. The main road to Birejik is well known, but with the exception of two routes followed by Prof. Sachau in 1879, the country is a blank in the latest maps.

After leaving Bab and Halissa, Prof. Sayce followed a road previously travelled by Mr. Hogarth as far as a ford across the Sajur. The ford is commanded by a tel to which four different names were given by the villagers, the most correct being apparently Tel el-Yansúl. Here he discovered paleoliths of the St. Acheul type. From its summit the great Tel Basher is visible, which he would identify with the Til Baser's of the Assyrian inscriptions. Seven miles east of the ford he came to another tel (Boz Eyuk); the next tel was at Holmân, which has the same name as was given to Aleppo by the Assyrians. From Holmân to Jerablüs, the ancient Carchemish on the Euphrates, is about seven miles. Jerablüs (Hierapolis) is also known as Jerabls, a Turkoman abbreviation. Mr. Hogarth has shown that the identification of the site with the classical Europus is untenable, Europus lying further to the south. The site of Carchemish covers a large area, its great tel occupying only the north-east portion, and it is surrounded on three sides by a rampart of stones and earth. To the south lay to the north of two large tels, Tel el-Baqiya and Tel Ghanim, the latter being in the exact place assigned to Pethor in the Assyrian texts. He next passed Yusuf Beg, where a well-preserved Hittite inscription, which came from the neighbouring Tel Qundart, is built against the wall of a house. Seven miles further he reached the Sajur at Ghanami, where he found the torso of a white marble statue; and at Kara Tashli, a mile further on, he crossed the Sajur, on the bank of which he discovered some hundreds of paleoliths of Magdalenian type. A little beyond, on the slope of a hill, the peasants have brought to

the intervening plain being full of graves in which coins of the first four centuries are frequently found.

FARADAY.—June 13.—Mr. G. T. Beilby in the chair.—Prof. Ernst Cohen of the University of Utrecht delivered a lecture on 'Allotropic Forms of Metals.' The lecture was illustrated by experiments and lantern-slides, and followed by a discussion. a discussion.

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK

Mos. Royal Institution, 5.—General Monthly.

Aristotellan, 8.—Annual Meeting; Paper on 'Emotional Experiences of some Higher Mystics,' Rev. A. 'taldecott.

Geographical, 8.30.—'Explorations in Dutch New Guinea, Capt. G. Rawling.

WED. Archivological Institute, 4.30.—'Excavations on the Site of Coratopitum, Northumberland,' Mr. W. H. Knowies.

Science Cossip.

THE Board of Education Reports on the Geological Survey, 1910, have been published as a Parliamentary Paper (post free 10d.).

THE earth will be in aphelion on the morning of the 3rd inst. The moon will be full at 53 minutes past noon (Greenwich time) on the 11th inst., and new at 8h. 12m. on the evening of the 25th. She will be in apogee on the morning of the 9th, and in perigee about an hour before noon on the 24th.

MERCURY will be at superior conjunction with the sun soon after midnight on the 3rd, but will be visible in the evening during the latter half of the month, moving from Cancer into Leo, and passing very near Regulus on the 29th. Venus will be at greatest eastern elongation from the sun on the 7th, and will be very brilliant in the evening throughout the month, moving in a south-easterly direction through Leo, in a south-easterly direction through Leo, and passing a short distance to the north of Regulus on the 5th. Mars rises a little before midnight, and is slowly increasing in brightness; he will pass due south of β Arietis on the 12th, and of α on the 19th. Jupiter, nearly stationary and situated a little to the south of κ Virging sets easily each evening, soon afterwise. ginis, sets earlier each evening—soon after 10 o'clock at the end of the month. Saturn rises now soon after midnight, and earlier each night; he is situated near the boundary of the constellations Aries and Taurus. and will be near the waning moon on the morning of the 21st. Uranus will be at opposition to the sun on the 21st, and just visible to the naked eye, about eleven degrees to the south of the bright star Castor.

Four new variable stars are announced: three by Madame Ceraski, from examination of photographic plates taken by M. Blazko at the Moscow Observatory, one being in the constellation Orion, and two in Taurus, and the fourth by M. Ichinohe at the Tokyo and the fourth by M. Ichinohe at the Tokyo Observatory, situated in the constellation Cygnus. The Moscow stars are all below the tenth magnitude and of small ranges of variability. The Tokyo one (var. 27, 1911, Cygni) is numbered +50°3422 in the Bonn 'Durchmusterung,' where it is rated of 9'2 magnitude; it is found, however, to sink from time to time to the eleventh and lower but the partyes of the variation cannot lower, but the nature of the variation cannot vet be stated.

Wolf's periodical comet, which was discovered in 1884, and observed at returns in 1891 and 1898, was not seen in 1905, when it was unfavourably placed. It was photographed at the Königstuhl Observatory, Heidelberg, on the 19th ult. about midnight. It was in the constellation Aquila, moving towards Hercules, and estimated to be of only about the fifteenth magnitude.

The fifth number of Vol. XL. of the Memorie di Astrofisica ed Astronomia of the Società degli Spettroscopisti Italiani has been issued. It contains observations by Signor Tringali of the position of Mars in 1909; remarks by Father Giacomelli on the spectroscopic observations of the sun's limb obtained at the Capitol Observatory, Rome, in 1871; and a continuation of the spectroscopical images of the sun's limb observed at Rome, Kalocsa, and Zurich from July 9th, 1887, to March 29th, 1891.

FINE ARTS

PAINTING AT THE ROYAL ACADEMY.

(Concluding Notice.)

PROBABLY there are few pictures that do not demand of the spectator a certain readiness to meet imperfect achievement half way, and modern painters, with their complex and somewhat mixed motives, stand particularly in need of discriminating sympathy if any closeness of connexion is to be established between mind and mind. It is the misfortune of the better class of exhibitors at the Royal Academy that they show their work in an atmosphere in which this receptive attitude is very difficult to maintain.

Such respectable work as is to be discovered is more often the survival of an old fashion than the forerunner of what is to come. Freshness of thought is contraband in this port, and, though a certain admired and plausible imitation is admitted duty free, cases of actual smuggling get rarer each year. No one could take No. 101, The Shipyard, by Mr. Gerald Burn, as heralding a new art or as betraying much acquaintance with the newest fashion in painting. It is, however, one of the more dignified pictures in the galleries, and such sincere work is always entitled to respect. A Tragedy (435), by Mr. J. R. K. Duff, is of similar quality. It also belongs to the last rather than to the also belongs to the last rather than to the present century, but, after all, up-to-date work is not intrinsically superior to that of yesterday. That a work of the intimate quality of this by Mr. Duff should be "skied" in so preposterous a manner is anything but creditable to the hanging committee, and there are a number of other works which, if not all quite so accomplished, are, if possible, still more grotesquely unsuited to their lofty positions. Such are The Gravel Quarry (496), by Mr. Arthur Bell; A Sandstone Quarry near Fittleworth (503), by Mr. E. B. Lintott; and Landing Fish (352), by Mr. Charles Bryant, all carefully painted pictures showing some attempt at utilizing natural effects for purposes of design. Mr. Hayley Lever's Snow in the Harbour (412) stands the ordeal of an incongruous position rather better than these, being fresher in colour, and showing a power of patterning in larger masses. Whither? (440) by Mr. Tom Mostyn, is another picture which looks well under none too flattering treatment at the hands of the hanging committee. It is more competent than most of the canvases he is showing at the Goupil Gallery; and at Burlington House any attempt at imaginative work, even on some-what hackneyed lines, is a relief after much unenterprising photography.

There are a number of smaller pictures of some merit to which more generous treat-ment has been meted out. There would be little fear of passing them over, but for the apathy which attacks the student of an unusually uninspired Academy Exhibition. It was only on a third visit that we discovered Mr. Clausen's admirable little landscape Early Morning in September (551). It is compactly designed, and brings together on a small canvas the result of much delicate observation. No. 550, St. Martha's Chapel, Surrey, by Mr. Alfred Hart, is less creative more within the limits of a direct transcript from nature; but its variety and expressiveness of touch and rich full colour are praiseworthy, recalling the work of Henry Moore with different subject-matter. Mr. B. Eastlake Leader's View in the Rhone Valley (583) is not so unctuous a piece of virtuosity, but still a capably and expressively brushed landscape on a small scale such as is getting rare in modern exhibitions. Execution in these works is more admirable than conception; and competent execution-in this case academic rather than the result of lively interest in their subject-matter—is, again, the saving virtue of Miss Ruth Hollingsworth's Rivals (374) and Mr. Arthur Lyons's large Banquet des Élèves de Jean Lyons's large Banquet des Eteves de Jean Paul Laurens (375), a sound piece of school work, uninspired, it is true, but showing a creditable capacity in such exercises. Miss Lilian Harris's Still Life (601) is equally, Miss Lilian Harris's Still Life (601) is equally, perhaps, a piece of school work, but of a more modern sort. It is one of the few canvases on the walls which seem to belong to the present day, and reveals a rare and subtle sense of colour which is very refreshing. This purely receptive kind of talent, solely occupied in the cultivation of a rather beautiful kind of vision, is typical of one aspect of modern painting. typical of one aspect of modern paintingalmost unrepresented at the Royal Academy. Perhaps Mr. Bacon's portrait of *The Earl* of Lonsdale (134), which aims at satisfying to perfection the demands of an utterly commonplace vision, is an instance of the kind of painting we see nowadays at no exhibitions except those of the Royal Academy. It has an historic value by the completeness with which it expresses the average mind of to-day. In this respect Mr. Bacon is as wonderful as Mr. Collier, and the ever-widening gulf which separates public from professional taste in art is one of the most disquieting signs of the times.

OTHER EXHIBITIONS.

WE excuse ourselves from noticing the Academy picture of Mr. Hughes Stanton because his small oil paintings at the Leicester Galleries represent his talent much more favourably. They display in a pleasurable fashion the sense of balance whereby he keeps every element of his picture well distributed upon the canvas. He has also considerable feeling for the leading characteristics of certain kinds of landscape. His water-colours are at once less compact in structure and less vivid in portraiture. We feel the recipe upon which they are manufactured, while the oil paintings are pleasantly spontaneous.

At the Baillie Gallery the painting shown by living artists is less competent than Mr. Stanton's, but there is a fine collection of original drawings by Aubrey Beardsley. Of these the series of illustrations for 'Volpone,' if not intrinsically finer than some of the others, are especially to be commended to students of black-and-white art

as instances of tone-drawings for reproduction which yet maintain the stylistic dignity and reserve that have, for the moment, almost completely deserted this department of artistic practice.

THE HELLENIC SOCIETY.

Ar the Annual Meeting of the Hellenic Society, held on Tuesday at Burlington House, Prof. Percy Gardner resigned the office of President, which he has held for the five statutory years. In moving the adoption of the Report, which was laid before the meeting by Mr. George Macmillan (Hon. Secretary), the retiring President delivered an address, in the course of which, after reviewing the history of the Society during the past year, he offered some remarks on the position of classical studies at the present time, which we summarize.

The vogue of Hellenic studies in all European countries was receding rather than advancing, as was shown by the action of Oxford. The speaker had supported the Oxford concession on the ground that Greek studies should be valued for their intrinsic nobleness and usefulness rather than maintained on compulsion. The course of education was trending in other directions, on account of the discoveries of physical science; the hurry and rush of modern life, which did not allow time for a Greek foundation of general culture; and the idea that the literature of modern Europe was better suited to foster the higher mental and moral developments of to-day than that of the ancient world.

Learners of Greek would then be fewer, but its poetry, history, and philosophy were secure as a means of higher education. The danger was that of narrower circles and coteries standing apart from the general intellectual activity of the nation, and this had to be faced by their body with the help of the Classical Association. His colleague Prof. Gilbert Murray had secured a run for Euripides in a London theatre, but it was not only in a democratic direction that interest was to be maintained. Their task, and that of the new Roman Society, was to seek for depth rather than wide diffusion of classical culture, to retain in touch with them the best minds.

The present democratic age tended alike in literature and art to the unregulated, and revolt against authority. The effort to surprise and shock was leading to the danger of a new barbarism, and the value of any settled rules or fixed points had become inestimable.

The laws of beauty and order which Greece gave the world were of eternal significance, and must be kept fresh by a constant succession of new discoveries and studies, such as were supplied by exploration and excavation. Thus knowledge was vivified and expanded. Here the few must toil for the many, and the specialist add to the general illumination. The teacher must go on learning, and full training meant a considerable range of knowledge coupled with specialization on a small part of the field. Primitive and prehistoric Greece were offering a welcome advance of learning, but the speaker preferred the full maturity of the Greek spirit; in particular, Greek art could not be surpassed in its exposition of human beauty and charm, and could not be set aside by an age in danger of physical degeneracy, which thought more of

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efficiency for particular purposes than health. In athletic sports England and America touched the Greeks most closely, and here much was to be learnt from them. The Greek ideas of corporate life, of the continuity of the race, and of balance and moderation were even now among the most potent forces to keep society from dissolution.

THE SANDEMAN COINS.

On Tuesday, June 13th, Messrs. Sotheby began the six-day sale of the collection of coins formed by Mr. John Glas Sandeman, the chief prices realized being the following:—

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Greek Coins: Tarentum, stater, gold, B.C. 400–330, 69l. Agrigentum, tetradrachm, transitional style, 15l.; another, similar, 28l.; didrachm, 15l. 10s. Camarina, didrachm, B.C. 461–405, 154l. Gela, didrachm, transitional style, B.C. 466–415, 34l. Himera, tetradrachm, B.C. 500–466, 196l.; another, B.C. 466–422, 44l. Naxos, tetradrachm, B.C. 466–415, 140l.; another, B.C. 415–403, 45l. Selinus, tetradrachm, B.C. 466–412, 15l.; the same, C. 466–415, 140l.; another, B.C. 415–403, 45l. Selinus, tetradrachm, B.C. 466–412, 15l.; the same, dekadrachm, 92l.; another, 41l.; Acanthus, tetradrachm, B.C. 500–242, 17l. 10s. Olynthus, tetradrachm, B.C. 500–424, 17l. 10s. Olynthus, tetradrachm, B.C. 500–429l. Philip II., gold stater, 17l. 15s.; another, 29l.; another, 17l. 15s.; another, 29l.; another, 17l. 15s.; another, 29l.; another, 18l. Mexander of Epirus, stater, B.C., 400–344, 43l. Alexander of Epirus, stater, B.C., 400–344, 43l. Alexander of Epirus, stater, B.C., 400–344, 43l. Alexander of Epirus, stater, B.C. 30d. Chalcis in Eubosa, didrachm, before B.C. 507, 17l. 10s. Naxos, stater, B.C. 600–400, 16l. 15s. Lampsacus, stater, B.C. 304–350, 210l. Arsinoë II. of Egypt, gold octadrachm, 15l. 5s. Carthage, tetradrachm, B.C. 410–310, 15l. 10s.

Roman Imperial Coins: Julius Cæsar and Cetavius, aureus, 17l. 5s. Sextus Pompey.

tetradrachm, B.C. 410–310, 15l. 10s.

Roman Imperial Coins: Julius Cæsar and Octavius, aureus, 17l. 5s. Sextus Pompey, B.C. 38–35, aureus, 63l. Cleopatra and M. Antonius, B.C. 41–32, two denarii, 18l. 10s. Augustus, aureus, 20l. 5s. Otho, aureus, 15l. 5s. Trajan, aureus, 16l.; another, 15l. 5s. Sabina, aureus, 38l. Faustina II., aureus, 34l. 10s. Crispina, aureus, 21l. Pertinax, aureus, 18l. Septimius Severus, aureus, 16l.; another, 17l. 5s. Tranquillina, silver, 15l. Numerian, aureus, 35l. The total of the sale was 5,48sl. 4s.

The following etchings by D. Y. Cameron were sold by Messrs. Sotheby on Monday, June 26th: Craigievar, 50l.; The Doorway of a Mosque, 100l.

Fine Art Gossip.

With the hundredth number of The With the hundredth number of The Burlington is presented a reproduction of a water-colour by Mr. C. J. Holmes, a former editor. Two colour-plates illustrate an article by Mr. Aymer Vallance on Flemish painted glass panels. Some paintings by Vivarini are discussed by Dr. Borenius; and Dr. Hulin de Loo writes on Jacques Daret's 'Nativity of our Lord.' Mr. Clutton-Brock contributes an article on the Brock contributes an article on the "primitive" tendency in modern art, and Mr. A. M. Hind one on the arrangement of Mr. A. M. Hind one on the arrangement of print collections. Mr. Roger Fry describes the method of painting employed in a picture entitled 'Diana and her Nymphs,' attributed to Vermeer of Delft. Another article of interest is by Dr. Petrucci on the treasures brought back from Chinese Turkestan by M. Pelliot's mission. Mr. Herbert Cook's essay on Baldassare d'Este, and notes on a lost portrait by Justus Suttermans, on the grown of George I. and on mans, on the crown of George I., and on various other works of art, make up an unusually full number.

THE sixteenth annual exhibition of the Royal Society of Miniature Painters will

open at the Gallery of the Royal Society of Painters in Water Colours next Wednesday.

THE Trustees have purchased for the National Gallery of Scotland the statue 'Jeune Athlète,' by M. Jean Larrivé, at present in the Exhibition of the Royal Scottish Academy. M. Larrivé is a regular exhibitor at the Salon des Artistes Français, but his work has not before been seen in Scotland.

The annual exhibition of pictures and sculpture by members of the United Arts Club, Dublin, is now open in the new premises of the Club. Amongst the exhibitors are Mr. Jack B. Yeats, Mr. R. C. Orpen, Count Markievicz, Miss Eva Hamilton, Mr. Oliver Sheppard, and Mr. Percy French.

A Society has recently been formed in Paris to promote the study of French engraving. The statement issued by the Executive Committee—among whom are Count A. de Laborde and M. Jean Guiffrey with M. Doucet as treasurer—sets forth the aims of the new association. It is proposed among other hew association. It is proposed among other things to undertake the publication of documented works dealing with the history of engraving in France from its origin down to the present time and to reprint rare books. A preliminary list is issued of works to be published by the Society; the first mentioned, 'La Gravure dans les Livres d'Heures parisiens du quinzième Siècle, by the Abbé Jean Gaston, should be of great interest. There is certainly room for a Society of this description, and it should meet with support in this

This year's Prix du Salon has been awarded to M. Lucien Jonas for his two pictures at the Salon of the Artistes Français, the portrait of M. Henri Harpignies and 'Les Médecins: la Consultation.'

The biennial Prix Ary Scheffer (6,000fr.), given for "la meilleure gravure en taille-douce exécutée par un artiste français," has been awarded to a former Prix de Rome, M. Gabriel Pascal Quidor, who has two examples of his work in this year's Salon. The Prix of the Société Française de Gravure (2,100fr.) has been divided between M. Taverne, M. C. Bourgeat, and M. Mazelin.

THE Société Centrale des Architectes Français, founded in 1840, has awarded its Grande Médaille to the "Œuyre ensemble" of M. Augustin Rey, who has designed numerous mansions, churches, and other buildings in Paris and elsewhere. The prize is confined to French architects.

REMBRANDT's house at Amsterdam in the Joodenbreetstraat, in which the master spent the most fruitful years of his artistic activity, and which was sold with all its art treasures in 1656, when the artist was declared a bankrupt, is to be restored. This is mainly due to the munificence of a citizen of Amsterdam. The outside of the building still preserves much of its original character, but the interior has for years been completely transformed and modernized. The official inventory of 1656, however, supplies a clue to the arrangement of the house and the position of the rooms at that date, and this will afford the architect much assistance in his efforts to restore the building, as nearly as may be, to its original condition. When finished, the house will become a "Rembrandt Museum."

THE NEMES COLLECTION (recently referred to in *The Athenœum*), which has been lent by its owner to the Old Pinakothek at Munich, was formally opened to the public on June 17th by Prince Rupprecht of Bavaria. The pictures have been arranged in the Spanish Room, and the catalogue, with an Introduction by Herr von Tschudi, is remarkably good in every respect.

Mr. FISHER UNWIN will shortly publish a book on 'The Royal Copenhagen Porcelain: its History and Development from the Eighteenth Century to the Present Day,' by Mr. A. Hayden, who has made extensive studies for his work in Denmark.

EXHIBITIONS.

- 8ar. (July 1.)—Sir Francis Seymour Haden. Memorial Exhibition of
 Etchings, Drypoints, and Drawings, Leicester Galleries.
 Bettia Schebaman's Portrait of Michael Mordkin in the

 Danne Bacchanale, Doré Gallery.
 Mr. Walter Sickert's Pictures, Stafford Gallery.

 Mos. Hoyal Society of Ministure Painters, Sixteenth Annual
 Exhibition, 5a, Pall Mail Each

MUSIC

My Life. By Richard Wagner. 2 vols-(Constable & Co.)

This is a translation of 'Mein Leben, von Richard Wagner,' published by F. Bruckmann of Munich a few months ago. It only goes up to 1864, and was taken down from Wagner's dictation "by my down from Wagner's dictation by my friend and wife, who wished me to tell her the story of my life." Its value, according to Wagner's brief Preface, "consists in its unadorned veracity." "Unadorned" is perhaps too strong a term, but, as in the "Mémoires" of Berlioz, we get a vivid, and in the man Glasenann. true, picture of the man. Glasenapp, Wagner's official biographer, must have had access to the work, some copies of which were printed during Wagner's lifetime, or else certain facts and statements must have come to him, directly or indirectly, from Wagner himself. On the other hand, there is much that is new in this autobiography, and even what is not new is told in forcible language.

Wagner's admiration for Weber is well known, and dates back to his early childhood. In Dresden Weber, in fact, frequently visited the house of Wagner's parents. It was through his advice that his brother Albert and his sister Louise went on the stage. We read, too, of a picnic to Loschwitz, near Dresden, by the Wagners and their friends, in gipsy fashion, when Weber played the part of cook. Wagner also remembers hearing Weber and the Italian singer Sassaroli discussing the respective merits of German and Italian music. These and other Weber reminiscences refer to a very early period. It is interesting to know that at Leipsic, when about fifteen years old, he heard a Beethoven Symphony—the one in Afor the first time. It was at Leipsic also that he began to study harmony, and borrowed Logier's treatise from a musical lending library of which "Mr. Frederick Wieck, whose daughter afterwards married Robert Schumann," was the proprietor.

Wagner's descriptions of persons and places are very graphic—of the large house at Eisleben where his uncle Adolf lived, and of that uncle himself; and of the excitement at Dresden and Leipsic after the news of the Paris Revolution in 1830. At Dresden there was fighting in the streets, and Wagner, then only eighteen years old, composed a "political Overture." In the introduction was a theme underneath which, to make his meaning clearer, he wrote the words "Friedrich und Freiheit." Here we have an early specimen of his sympathy with the republican party, also a foretaste of his later belief in the necessity of the union of tone and word. Of the memorable three weeks' voyage from Pillau to London in 1839 there is a long account; also of his visit to the House of Lords-in temporary premises owing to the fire of 1834. He saw and heard Melbourne, Brougham, and the Duke of Wellington. The matter in hand was the discussion of measures to be taken against the Portuguese Government to ensure the passing of the Anti-Slavery Bill. One of the speakers was the Bishop of London, whose voice and manner seemed stiff to Wagner, "but possibly," he adds, "I was prejudiced by my dislike of parsons generally."

Particular interest is attached to the account given by Wagner of his first wife, Minna Planer. The quarrels in after years at Triebschen are familiar history. Although the conduct of Minna in the whole affair, and in the Wesendonck episode which immediately led to the breaking-up of the home, was, perhaps, not altogether justifiable, one cannot but feel that without her version of the matter a really impartial judgment is

impossible.

In this autobiography, although it is Wagner's account, we have statements which show at any rate that there were faults on both sides. Wagner frankly remarks that from the very first—i.e., before the marriage in 1836—he did not regard her as "the embodiment of my ideal; on the contrary, she attracted me by the soberness and seriousness of her character, which supplemented what I felt to be wanting in my own."
There were violent scenes between them before the marriage, and even at Magdeburg, on the very day they went to the vicarage to arrange about the wedding, they quarrelled while waiting in the hall. "An altercation arose between us, which speedily led to such bitter vituperation that we were just on the point of separating and going our own way when the clergy-man opened the door." However, they put a good face on the matter, and the wedding was fixed for the following morning. Disputes continued after marriage, and these prove convincingly that the pair were not suited to each other. That Minna was very kind to Wagner during the long years when he was poor and unsuccessful is, on his own showing, evident; and it is certain'y sad to think that, just at the time when his genius was beginning to be recognized, the home was broken up.

The visit to London in 1855, when Wagner conducted the Philharmonic Concerts, has been described pretty fully in his letters to Liszt, also in those to Minna. In the autobiography there is nothing very new concerning the London campaign, but we cannot refrain from making one quotation specially characteristic of the author. Wagner went to the Sacred Harmonic Society several times, and admired the great precision of the chorus, particularly in 'The Messiah.' He then remarks as follows:

"It was here that I came to understand the true spirit of English musical culture which is bound up with the spirit of English Protestantism. This accounts for the fact that an oratorio attracts the public far more than an opera. A further advantage is secured by the feeling among the audience that an evening spent in listening to an oratorio may be regarded as a sort of service, and is almost as good as going to church."

The pages concerning the production of 'Tannhäuser' at Paris in 1861 are very interesting.

There are many references to Meyerbeer, but no special revelations. There are insinuations of his having bribed editors and journalists, but no actual proofs. One instance will suffice. Wagner called on Berlioz in 1859, and was discussing the concerts he was going to give, when Madame Berlioz came into the room, and in a tone of angry surprise said: "Comment, je crois que vous donnez des conseils pour les concerts de M. Wagner?" Wagner adds: "Belloni then discovered that this lady had just accepted a valuable bracelet sent her by Meyerbeer."

To Brahms there is one, and, we believe, only one, reference. When Wagner was in Vienna in 1863, arranging the music for a concert in December, orchestral parts of the excerpts which he was going to give from the 'Ring' and 'Die Meistersinger' had to be copied. Cornelius and Tausig and other experienced musicians helped, including Brahms. Tausig had recommended him as a "very good fellow," and such indeed he proved, for he undertook to copy a selection from 'Die Meistersinger.'

Much more could be written about this most interesting autobiography, which has already been widely noticed in the daily press.

The translation, on the whole, is satisfactory. Musical terms, however, seem to have puzzled the translator, who, by the way, is not named. Hornist is translated cornet-player in one place, and trumpeter in another. Again, Wagner, when studying a Haydn Quartet in his early days, found it difficult to read the viola part written in the alto clef. The translator refers to the difficulty he had in mastering "the alto for the viola." Again, there is a confused sentence concerning Saint-Saëns's knowledge of Wagner's scores. It begins, "He was not only able" (English, vol. ii. p. 740; German, vol. ii. p. 726).

THE WEEK.

COVENT GARDEN.—Russian Ballets.

THE season of Russian ballets opened Wednesday evening, June 21st. Ballets with dance and song date very far back, but those consisting entirely of dancing to music date from about the foundation of the Paris Académie Royale de Musique in 1671. Noverre was one of the most celebrated of ballet masters and composers during the second half of the eighteenth century; it was for his ballet 'Les Petits Riens' that Mozart wrote music. Again, in the nineteenth century there was the celebrated Salvatore Vigano, for whose allegorical ballet 'Gli Uomini di Prometeo' Beethoven wrote some delightful music. The whole history of ballet pantomime or ballet avec action is most interesting. Connected with three great theatres in St. Petersburg and two in Moscow, which are all controlled by the Imperial Government, is the Imperial School of Dancing, which was founded nearly two hundred years ago, and from that school has come the company now performing at Covent Garden.

The first piece they gave was 'Le Pavillon d'Armide,' in three tableaux, by M. Alexandre Benois, the music by M. Nicolas Tcherepnin, the excellent chef d'orchestre of the company. The action on the stage is full of life, and there are some surprising scenic effects. The two chief dancers Madame Tamara Karsavina and M. Nijinsky, who impersonated Armide and her slave respectively, are first-rate artists. The lady is most graceful in her movements, while Nijinsky, not by any means a small man, moves about with marked ease and rapidity; high leaps in the air are a striking feature of his dancing. Madame Elsa Will, one of the confidants of Armide, deserves mention. But all the fantastic beings of Armide's court were good dancers, and they were

artistically grouped.

'Le Carnaval,' in one short act, was charming. Schumann in his 'Carneval' depicted the merrymaking of masqueraders, and some of the numbers, as is well known, bear masked ball names. M. Michel Fokine fitted his scenes and dances to this very music, which has been effectively scored by Rimsky - Korsakoff, Liadoff, Glazounoff, and Tcherepnin. It was a happy idea, and has been carried out with wonderful skill and refinement, while the performance was exceedingly dainty. The least exaggeration in the acting, any attempt to make points, would have spoilt the stage effect, also the music.

As third number, scenes and Polovtsian dances from the second act of Borodin's 'Prince Igor' were given. The action takes place in the camp of the Polovtzi. The Khan's daughter and her companions are singing plaintive songs of folk-type character. Later there is a wild dance of warriors and women, and the characteristic music of Borodin and the realistic movements of the dancers presented a striking tone-picture.

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On the following Saturday, after a performance of 'Pagliacci,' 'Le Spectre de la Rose,' a tableau chorégraphique after a poem of Théophile Gautier, was performed. Only the two chief dancers took part in it: Karsavina was the young girl, and Nijinsky the Spectre. The music consisted of Weber's 'Invitation à la Valse' orchestrated by Berlioz, who scored it to serve as ballet music for a version of 'Freischütz' given at Paris in 1841. This, like the 'Carnaval,' proved a genuine success.

CORONATION MUSIC.

The music for the Coronation service at Westminster Abbey on June 22nd was, with one exception, by native composers, and that exception, "Zadok the priest," was by Handel, who spent the greater part of his life in London, and duly became a British subject.

Sir Hubert Parry's excellent anthem "I was glad," sung at the Coronation of Edward VII., was again performed; but his 'Te Deum' was specially written for the present?one, and contains some of his best thought and most skilful workmanship.

In the Homage Anthem, "Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous," written by Sir Frederick Bridge, the first phrase of Luther's chorale "Ein feste Burg" is heard at the very opening, while in the closing section it is given in its entirety, and even a phrase from it forms the bass of the "Amen" coda. Sir Frederick's music is stately and devotional

Sir Walter Parratt's Confortare, "Be strong and play the man," sung by the choir between the putting on of the crown and the presentation of the Bible, is a simple yet appropriate composition of only sixteen bars.

The "Gloria in excelsis," sung at the coronation of Queen Mary, was set by Sir Charles Stanford. The opening phrase given out by the orchestra is the subject-matter from which much of the music is evolved. It appears, with various rhythmical changes, both in the voice parts and in the accompaniments, while in the final Amen it is presented in a four-part stretto. Though eleverly written, the music is never dry.

Sir Edward Elgar's contribution was the very short, but highly expressive offertory "O hearken Thou," sung at the opening of the Communion in the Queen's service, while the effective "Sanctus" in the same was by Dr. Walter G. Alcock, organist of the Chapel Royal

Among the pieces played before the arrival of the King and Queen were Dr. Walford Davies's 'Solemn Melody,' a new Prelude by Sir Frederic Cowen, and a new March by Mr. Frederick Cliffe.

Musical Gossip.

Mr. Henry Hadley, who gave a concert at Queen's Hall on Wednesday evening with the London Symphony Orchestra, was born in America, but was for several years conductor at the Mayence Opera-House. In 1909 he accepted the post of conductor of the Seattle Symphony Orchestra, and this he still holds. His programme opened with his Fourth Symphony in D minor, which

was performed for the first time in England. It bears the title 'North, East, South, and West.' Of the four movements, the second is the most interesting. The thematic material is engaging, notably the plaintive theme assigned to the two sets of horns, while the general atmosphere of the music is romantic. Next to this we would name the Finale, though the interest is in the themes more than in their treatment. The first movement is pretentious rather than powerful, while the lively second one, evolved from characteristic "darky tunes," is worked up somewhat in Sousa's style. As programme music, his Rhapsody entitled 'The Culprit Fay' is not satisfactory, and still less so as abstract music. There is, however, some clever scoring in it; moreover, one clearly feels the influence of Debussy and Strauss. Mr. Hadley displayed ability as a conductor. Mr. John Powell, the American pianist, gave a brilliant rendering of Liszt's E flat Concerto.

MISS SUSANNE VON MORVAY will give her second pianoforte recital at the Æolian Hall on Friday, the 14th inst.

MESSRS. SOTHEBY recently sold the autograph of Beethoven's 'An die Hoffnung,' Op. 94, a song with pianoforte accompaniment, for over 200%, and a Bach autograph, 'Prélude pour la Luth ou Cembal,' for 41%.

PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK.

Mox.-Sar. Royal Opera, Covent Garden.

Mox. Yvette Guilbert's Recital, 3, Bechstein Hall.

Tuzs. Reinhold von Warlich's Song Recital, 3, 13, Bechste n Hall.

Tuzs. Heinhold von Warlich's Song Recital, 3, 13, Bechste n Hall.

Nest March Cover's Hall.

Par. Augusta Cottlow's Pianoforte Recital, 3, 30, Steinway Hall.

Bar. Havemann's Violin Recital, 3, Queen's Hall.

DRAMA

THE WEEK.

HIS MAJESTY'S .- The Gala Performance.

It was our theatrical profession rather than our drama which was on show at Tuesday night's gala performance. Royalty and its guests were offered not a survey of the English stage from the point of view of its plays and playwrights, but instead a conspectus of the art of its players, old and young ministers of gaiety and past-masters of eloquence and tears. Since the occasion was one in which "His Majesty's Servants" were taking an official and unusual part in the festivities of a Coronation, and were submitting their tribute of loyalty to the Crown, there was every excuse for a programme seeking to illustrate the rich material to be found on our stage to-day rather than the history of the drama from Elizabethan to recent times.

To do both, indeed, would have been impossible; otherwise it might have seemed strange that nothing characteristic of the modern stage, from Robertson and Pinero down to Bernard Shaw, was included in the bill, and that the sole sample of even nineteenth-century plays should be 'David Garrick,' an adaptation which has no significance except as a vehicle for a display of histrionic virtuosity. But then how easily was the choice of

a scene from this stale piece forgiven for the sake of the artist with whom its title will always be associated! Sir Charles Wyndham is our veteran player, and the forcefulness of his emotion, the vigour of his comedy, and the felicity of his nicely pointed diction are amazing in a man of his seventy years.

No indulgence was needed for a Shakespearian excerpt—the letter episode from 'The Merry Wives'—which showed us Ellen Terry's high spirits and Mrs. Kendal's drier humour in combination, recalling as it did the famous revival in which these leaders of their profession exalted a moderate work of its author to the level, as it were, of a masterpiece. Nor were any apologies required for the other extract from Shakespeare—the Forum scene of 'Julius Cæsar'—for here side by side with the popular Antony of Sir Herbert Tree, that brilliant study in mob oratory, was a Brutus-Mr. Willard'sso dignified, so resonant, as to seem, to judge by a single passage, the finest of modern times; and these two were supported by a crowd, made up of numberless distinguished players, which, under Mr. Granville Barker's stage-management, produced a tremendous impression of realism. Clambering at times up to the rostrum, swaying like a field of corn under the breath of this or that emotion, interrupted once most poignantly by a woman's cry of "Cæsar," this crowd is hardly likely to be equalled on our stage again.

The prologues written for the performance—one the work of Mr. Owen Seaman, the other from the pen of Mr. Herbert Trench—served to remind us of the gifts of two accomplished elocutionists, Mr. Forbes Robertson and Mrs. Patrick Campbell.

Finally, hosts of talent went to the casting of Sheridan's delightful burlesque 'The Critic' and Ben Jonson's aptly named masque (in this instance) 'The Vision of Delight,' both of which have the merit, from the players' standpoint, of providing many parts. Directed by Mr. Bourchier, most complacent and fussy of Puffs, the mock-heroics of Lady Tree's Tilburina, the delicious drollery of Miss Marie Tempest as the confidante, the absurdities of Mr. Cyril Maude's only half-moustached Don Whiskerandos, the admirable bur-lesque acting of Mr. Laurence Irving as the Earl of Leicester, the prettiness of Miss Gertie Millar and Miss Lily Elsie, and the varied fun of Mr. Edmund Payne (Sir Christopher Hatton), Mr. Alfred Lester (the Constable), Mr. Hawtrey (Sneer), Mr. Grossmith, jun. (Dangle), Miss Violet Vanbrugh (the Justice's wife), and Mr. Gerald du Maurier (the Governor of the Fort) provoked plenty of laughter for 'The Critic,' and secured tolerance for the many "gags," and even for a scene interpolated to bring on Miss Winifred Emery in the guise of Queen Elizabeth. Dozens of attractive actresses figured in the masque, which had been staged most tastefully by Sir Herbert Tree; and when, after Miss Clara Butt's singing of the National

Anthem, the spectators filed out of the theatre, gracefully decorated in green and gold, they must have gone home almost satiated with good entertainment, and impressed with the abundant resources, in the way of players, which our stage has at its command.

ROYALTY. — The Parisienne. Adapted from the French of Henry Becque.—
Pericles and Aspasia: a Classical Farce in One Act. By W. L. Courtney.

MADAME YAVORSKA is now soliciting our attention for drama of a lighter sort than she usually affects and a type of woman that takes life much less seriously than your Noras or Heddas. Of her latest programme the genuine novelty is Mr. W. L. Courtney's skit, in which we see an Oxford scholar converting the hetaira of Pericles into a latter-day minx, who is ready to shirk secretarial work in order to have dinner and visit a music-hall in Company with young Alcibiades. Mr. Bernard Shaw at his most audacious has never been guilty of such shocking irreverence. We meet Pericles in a study equipped with electric bells, electric lights, a telephone, and a type-writer. In his absence his Aspasia is only too willing to neglect the typing of the famous speech on the beauty and æsthetic mission of Athens while she alternately checks and encourages the love-making of Alcibiades, here represented as the most dashing and slangy of undergraduates. When this graceless pair have left poor Pericles in the lurch, he is exhibited in all the throes of composition, just as though he were any modern orator, and outside is heard the voice of his wife complaining about the cook and the week's washing. Aspasia is supposed to be a member of the Souls and a women's club of to-day; "G. B. S." is referred to under the name of Euripides; and there are allusions to our own politics in terms of those of Greece. Mr. Courtney's is a good joke, and his hearers need not be Hellenists to appreciate his

Clotilde, M. Becque's Parisienne, has affinities with Mr. Courtney's modernized Aspasia. A wife who demands as much liberty for woman in sex-friendships as man enjoys, and finds that a lover can be a much greater tyrant and bore than a husband, she is real enough in her feather-brained, wilful way, though the play in which she figures as heroine shows, alike in its scheme and technique, an oldfashioned air. The habit of soliloquy runs riot; the conversations are rather too consistently in duologue; and there is far too much repetition in the plotting-out of the scenes. The time, moreover, has gone by when a French playwright may take it forgranted that a married woman in Paris has a lover, and therefore the spectacle of the philandering bachelor assuming the airs and receiving the treatment of the jealous husband has lost some of its piquancy. The comedy furnishes that spectacle and little more in each of its three acts. The poses of the characters

are varied; but their relations remain the same.

Madame Yavorska does not appear in Mr. Courtney's farce, but confines herself to the part of Clotilde, and in this displays more sense of character than has been observable in her recent impersonations. Her struggles with our language still make her diction somewhat slow, and perhaps it is to hide or compensate for this fact that she is over-emphatic in her smiles and archness generally. But in Clotilde's tantalizing moods both her gaiety and her malice are infectious, and Mr. Charles Bryant makes Lafont so tiresome, nay, intolerable, a lover that the audience heartily relishes his discomfiture, though the husband, as represented by Mr. Kinsey Peile—egregiously fatuous in his complacency—is but a poor alternative.

Minor characters in 'The Parisienne,' are played by Miss Aimée de Burgh and Mr. Eric Maturin, who along with Mr. Bryant constitute the cast of 'Pericles and Aspasia.' As Pericles Mr. Bryant obtains more scope than as Lafont, and strikes a very agreeable note of burlesque humour. Good, too, in its assumption of self-assurance, is Mr. Maturin's boyish Alcibiades, while the Aspasia of Miss de Burgh is admirable.

HAYMARKET.—Above Suspicion: a Play in Three Acts. By Victorien Sardou. Translated and adapted by William Morpeth.

SARDOU'S name generally implies a good idea and good carpentry. His exposition is likely to be lengthy and laboured, but at his best does not leave loose ends, or fail to push home to a telling conclusion any problem of social ethics or emotional impulse that he raises. He is far from being at his worst in the drawing room melodrama which fills the bulk of Mr. Herbert Trench's new Haymarket programme, though his trick of "piling up the agony" is fully in evidence, and some of the minor characters betray his weakness for caricature and rough - and - ready sketches.

The piece, it appears, has already been seen on the London stage, but what will seem curious to playgoers who have no recollection of a previous English version is the similarity between the plot and that of Mr. Perceval Landon's arresting tale of 'The House Opposite,' which Mr. H. B. Irving staged not so very long ago (see Athen., Dec. 4, 1909). The resemblance is accidental, we may be sure, but those who recall the main idea of Mr. Landon's play already know Sardou's. In both cases a married woman's lover is distracted to find that a guiltless man may be condemned and executed for murder unless he gives away in court the honour of his mistress; in neither case can the heroine be persuaded by his eloquence to let him publish her shame. Sardou makes her decision seem less selfish by representing her as fearful of losing, under divorce proceedings, a much loved child; but he also develops

his theme on stagey lines by supposing the heroine's husband to be President of the Court which is investigating the murder, and by gradually bringing both the lover and the wife into the toils of the law. Mr. Landon's was a more strictly analytical study, showing how the man lost all his affection for the timid worldling who valued her good name more than the life of a fellow-creature, and at the same time how the nerves of the woman collapsed under the torture of her own conscience. The Frenchman preferred a wider though more superficial range of treatment; he got more variety of feeling into his scheme if less concentration of psychological interest.

One of the best performances at the Haymarket is that furnished by Mr. C. V. France as a gamekeeper, who is really responsible for the murder, but guards his secret carefully till he is manœuvred into confession; the man's motive has been revenge for his wife's dishonour, and the actor brings out very forcefully his rugged temper and alternations of explosiveness and reticence. In the parts of the two lovers who break off their connexion too late to escape its penalties Mr. Charles Maude and Miss Alexandra Carlisle have fine outbursts of emotion; and Mr. Aubrey Smith, completely disguised in his make-up, acts with authority in the President's official scenes, and combines dignity with tenderness in the happy ending.

Lord Dunsany's Eastern drama 'The Gods of the Mountain' forms the concluding item of the bill, and between this and the main piece Miss Sara Allgood supplies a modest little entertainment consisting of four Irish folk-songs of varying mood, which as she renders them, simply and charmingly, create a welcome diversion.

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